

## US deadline set for decision on Olympics

The United States will decide by the middle of next month whether to participate in the Moscow Olympics, Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, said. He disclosed that he and President Carter supported a boycott. British athletic groups remained adamant they would attend.

## Boycott supported by President Carter

By Our Foreign Staff

An American boycott of this summer's Olympic Games in Moscow has become more likely with the disclosure that both President Carter and Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, are present in favour of such a move.

In an interview with *The New York Times*, published in Washington, Mr Vance has set an informal deadline of mid-February for a final decision on United States participation in the games. He and the President are personally opposed to the country taking part in the Olympics while Russian troops remain in Afghanistan, he said.

Asked whether the Administration could compel Americans to withdraw, Mr Vance said he believed that if the Government expressed its view "our citizens would follow that view". He said his attitude was affected by American participation in the 1936 Olympic Games staged by Hitler in Berlin.

"I think in hindsight that it was a mistake for us to attend the 1936 Olympics."

Mr Robert Kane, president of the American Olympic Committee, said the idea of a boycott of the Olympic Games in Moscow was "gauche and inappropriate".

He qualified his statement, made on television in New York, by saying that a transfer of the games would be a more acceptable protest than over Afghanistan, but that they should not be staged until 1981.

"We want to be part of the decision making. But once you boycott you've lost all your options," he said.

American sources in Brussels maintain that there is a rising tide of opinion among Nato countries questioning the propriety of holding the games in Moscow, and that an alternative site that could be made ready in the short time available.

Despite the apparently hesitant response from the United States' European allies at yesterday's meeting of the North Atlantic Council, the sources insisted that Washington was encouraged by progress in coordinating the Western response to events in Afghanistan.

The chorus of opposition to Soviet occupation was joined by Conservatives in the European Parliament at Strasbourg, resolution, put forward by conservatives and Christians-



Democrats, was passed condemning the intervention in Afghanistan and urging the Olympic Games authorities to consider switching the venue from Moscow.

The resolution said the Assembly was "horrified" by the "Soviet invasion and its threat to world peace" and called for immediate and unconditional withdrawal.

But in the Commons Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, said that the British Government had not decided whether to support calls for an Olympic boycott.

He reminded MPs that both the International Olympic Committee and the British Olympic Association were independent bodies.

One potential source of embarrassment in the event of British backing for a boycott would be the position of the Duke of Edinburgh, who would be in normal circumstances expected to attend as president of the International Equestrian Federation.

Mr Fritz Whitmer, secretary-general of the federation, said in Berne that the Duke had already agreed to attend, but this was strongly denied by a Buckingham Palace spokesman, who said that no decision had been taken.

The British athletes' world has reaffirmed that it has every intention of travelling to Moscow this summer.

Mr Derek Johnson, secretary of the International Athletes' Club, representing the competitors themselves, said that all the athletes he knew were determined to take part in the Moscow Games, and that they regarded demands for a boycott as a "phony cover-up" to disguise the lack of a cohesive foreign policy among Western governments.

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## Steel strike to spread into private plants

By Paul Rourledge

Labour Editor  
The steel strike is to be extended to private sector steelmakers, and union leaders are seeking an immediate embargo on all steel movements in Britain.

Those developments, which would effectively throttle much of manufacturing industry, were set in train yesterday by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation (ISTC) and the National Union of Blastfurnacemen, Ore Miners, Coke Workers and Kindred Trades (NUB). Union leaders are now talking openly of a political dispute with the Government, and there was a warning of a "holocaust" from Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the dominant ISTC.

Transport and rail unions will be asked today to halt all steel shipments within the country, whatever their origin, and an industrial union conference in London next week will attempt to clear any loopholes allowing imported steel into the United Kingdom.

Steel pickets queue for hot soup distributed at Bilstion by wives of union officials. Photograph by John Manning



Steel pickets queue for hot soup distributed at Bilstion by wives of union officials. Photograph by John Manning

## BSC aims at 30 pc increase in productivity levels by its men

By Peter Hill

Industrial Editor

The British Steel Corporation is aiming to achieve a 30 per cent improvement in productivity by the 100,000 workers in the slumped down industry on which it is basing its strategy for survival.

Sir Charles Villiers, the BSC chairman, said yesterday at a press conference that the cut back in steelmaking capacity to 15 million tonnes a year and the 52,000 reduction in the iron and steel labour force would be the base from which the corporation sought to boost productivity from last year's 141 tonnes a man to 183 tonnes.

The heavy steel union leaders will also look to craft and general unions in the private sector to join them, as they have done in the British Steel strike, now in its third week. The embargo on private sector steel movement starts as soon as the levels being achieved in France but considerably behind those of the West German steel industry.

But studies made during a visit to Japan over four years ago by a joint BSC management-union team, whose report has remained confidential, demonstrate the enormous lead which Japan has established. Productivity per man in the works visited by the team ranged between 364 tonnes and 467 tonnes.

"I am not even mentioning the Japanese steel industry because they are in a class by themselves," Sir Charles said. The Japanese steel industry was the focus of a joint management-trade union study mission from the BSC in 1975 (when the industry was experiencing a recession and the repercussions of the steep increase in oil prices). The report, written by Mr Denis Delay, secretary to the TUC Steel Industry Consultative

Committee, has never been published. Other members of the study team included Mr Robert Scholey, chief executive of the BSC, Mr Gordon Sambrook, managing director, commercial, Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, and Mr Eddie Linton, of the National Craftsmen's Co-ordinating Committee.

The BSC intended to circulate the final version of the report, which it was hoped would provide the basis for a corporation conference on the forward plans of the BSC, particularly the interface between operatives and craftsmen. But union agreement was not forthcoming and the report has been suppressed.

Mr Scholey has emphasized that while it was never the intention that the BSC would seek to emulate the Japanese plant performance levels, the report was designed to give clear indications of the direction in which the corporation should move.

But the report does demonstrate the high levels of output achieved in the Japanese industry at a time of recession and provide a clear pointer to the present political system no longer works properly. Perhaps surprisingly, and most dismaying for Mrs Margaret Thatcher and her ministers, was the high

total labour force of 14,168, equivalent to 364 tonnes per man; at another plant employing 16,000 workers output per man was 461 tonnes, at the Oita works output per man was 467 tonnes.

At the Fukuyama plant, whose total capacity at the time was one million tonnes greater than that planned by BSC in its slimmed down form, productivity among the 30,702 workers amounted to 407 tonnes a man.

The report states: "We returned convinced that the Japanese steel industry deserved its reputation. It is immensely strong, planning to get stronger still and presents both a threat and a challenge which we in Britain would be ill advised to try to ignore unless, that is, we are willing to see the British steel industry fall farther and farther behind in the world. Not simply farther behind Japan, but farther behind our main European competitors, who themselves are well behind Japan."

Mr Delay also stressed that it was important for the team to state that there were industrial practices in Japan which neither the corporation nor the unions would wish to introduce in Britain.

The joint report noted that a number of factors had ensured the success of the Japanese industry, including heavy investment in very large integrated works, very tight manning arrangements, good relations between management and unions and "manpower policies which, with the active participation of the unions, have as their main objectives the minimizing of costs and the constant improving of efficiency".

## Bank of England reorganizes at the top to match its changing financial role

By David Blake

Mr Christopher "Kit" McMahon has become Deputy Governor of the Bank of England as part of the most far-reaching reorganization of the Bank's workings in recent years.

Major structural changes have been introduced to help the Bank carry out its role of supervising and other markets, and a new emphasis has been given to the policy advice which the Bank provides to the Governor.

At the same time, banknotes will bear a new signature, that of Mr D. H. F. Somerset, who takes over the title of Chief Cashier, although many of the jobs traditionally performed by the holder of that title are being transferred elsewhere within the Bank.

The new structure divides the Bank's workings into three main areas. The first involves the structure and supervision of financial and other markets, including banking and institutions such as building societies. This will be under the direction of Mr John Page, who moved from being Chief Cashier to become an executive director of the Bank with a seat on the board.

Second, the policy and markets section will deal both with economic advice and such issues as the running of monetary policy. The third section will deal with many of the administrative functions at present spread throughout the individual department of the Bank.

The most striking promotion in the changes is that of Mr McMahon. He takes over as Deputy Governor from Sir Jasper Holloway, who did not seek reappointment by the Prime Minister.

Mr McMahon, who is 52, has had a glittering career in the Bank since he joined it from Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1954. Born and educated in Australia, he has been executive director in charge of international affairs in recent years and before that was in charge of the Bank's economic side.

It is likely that he will concentrate more on policy questions than his predecessor, who was heavily involved in administrative matters.

The other factor is a desire to shape the policy-making functions of the Bank more closely to modern needs.

One of the consequences of Mr McMahon's promotion is to open up one of the Bank's most important posts for an outsider, 43-year-old Mr Anthony Loehnis, who comes from Schroders, the merchant bankers, after a career in the Foreign Office and education at Eton, Oxford and Harvard.

Because the bank is allowed only four executive directors with seats on the Court, a new title of associate director has been created for Mr Loehnis.

Two main factors appear to be behind the Bank's restructuring. One is a desire to prevent it from being the target of the supervisory role it is called upon to perform and which could result from the report of the Wilson Committee or changes in the financial markets.

The other factor is a desire to shape the policy-making functions of the Bank more closely to modern needs.

Further cuts are in the pipeline, according to ministers. These will be announced in the autumn, bringing the total of public appointments down by a further 3,300.

Mr Thatcher said: "The administrative economies from these measures, when fully implemented, will be roughly £11m in a full year. These will be additional to the financial savings of about £350m in 1980-81 from reductions made in the previously planned programmes of the largest executive-type bodies as a result of the general public expenditure exercise."

An income of about £100m will be obtained from the planned sales of assets of the bodies affected.

"A general conclusion indicated is that a more cautious and selective approach should be adopted in the future towards the creation of non-departmental bodies, and in particular towards the 'hiving off' of departmental functions to such bodies," she said. "The Government endorses this view."

Some Conservative MPs thought that, considering the numbers involved—489 executive bodies, with 217,000 staff and spending £5.80bn in 1979, 1,561 advisory bodies, with a spending of £13m, and 67 tribunals systems, with administrative costs of £30m a year—the Government's action so far could only be described as cosmetic.

More details, page 6

## NUPE backs water men's pay claim

Fears of a water strike grew when leaders of the National Union of Public Employees, the second largest in the industry, supported a call for industrial action for a 46 per cent pay claim.

Water workers say they get £10-a-week less than gas and power men.

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## Paul McCartney arrested in Tokyo

Paul McCartney, the former Beatle, was arrested when he arrived at Tokyo airport by Narcotics Control officials who said they found about 220 grams (8oz) of marijuana in his suitcase.

Japanese promoters are considering whether to cancel the 11 performances arranged for him later this month throughout Japan.

Cell deaths: Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation, rejected demands for a public inquiry into deaths in police custody.

Moving house: The British School of Conveyancing offers "do-it-yourself" evening tutorials and correspondence courses.

Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 25, 26; La Creme de la Creme, 24, 25; Appointments, 23; Property, 23

Home News, 3, 3, 5, 6; Business, 17-22

Letters, 15, 18; TV & Radio, 25

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Science, 16; Weather, 2

Snow reports, 11; Sport, 10, 11

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Stock market: Equities surged ahead as buyers reappeared on the market and gold went above \$700. Gilt turned in a strong performance and the FT

Index rose 12.3 to 455.5

Business features: Frank Vogl on competition

American car makers are facing from imports.

More details, page 6

## 54% would welcome centre party but it would fail in election

By Fred Emery

Political Editor

By a slight majority, 54 per cent of mainland British voters would like to see some sort of centre party formed, but would not vote for one strong enough at an election for it to win outright, according to an opinion poll commissioned by *The Times*.

The likeliest voting outcome would be three parties of similar size, with Labour and Conservative just ahead of a national centre party.

The poll's further paradox is that a larger majority, 59 per cent, think it would be bad thing if the Labour Party split up.

The poll was commissioned from Opinion Research Centre after the November 20 television lecture by Mr Roy Jenkins, who suggested that voters might be attracted by a "new grouping" of what he called

proportion (41 per cent) of Conservative voters in the sample who still agreed that the system was not working, in spite of the fact that their party won the last election on a programme of bold reversal of Britain's fortunes.

Predictably unsettling for would-be centrists are the varied and conflicting preferences for the make-up of a centre party. Favourite (22 per cent) is a centre party made up of the Liberals and the Conservative left and the Labour right; next favoured (14 per cent) is a combination of Liberals and Labour moderates; with 9 per cent each given to a straight Lib-Con combination, and a breakaway Labour moderate party.

The percentage not wanting a centre party at all fell to 32 per cent from 40 per cent in 1972. But overall half the Labour voters and half the Conservatives favour a new centrist alliance.

There has been widespread speculation that Mr Jenkins might lead such a venture when his term as EEC president expires next year.

At the personal level, Mr Jenkins came fourth behind Mr David Steel, Mr Edward Heath and Mrs Shirley Williams (in that order) in the sample's preference for a centre government's Prime Minister.

The poll's findings were remarkably similar, except for the intervening rise in Liberal support, to a survey of a larger sample taken by *The Times* in September 1972. Now, as then, 53 per cent agreed that the present political system no longer works properly. Perhaps surprisingly, and most dismaying for Mrs Margaret Thatcher and her ministers, was the high

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## Balanced view of left urged by Mr Heffer

By Our Political Staff

Political Editor

It is essential to keep a balanced view and not let hysterical take over in considering the activities of the Trotskyist "Militant Tendency" whose activities have been described in recent articles in *The Times* by Mr Michael Hatfield, Political Reporter.

That was the appeal made last

## HOME NEWS

## Water strike nearer as NUPE backs wage claim

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

The threat of a water strike grew yesterday when the second largest union in the industry endorsed a call for industrial action in pursuit of a pay claim of 46 per cent.

Leaders of the National Union of Public Employees voted to back a recommendation from their water workers' national executive that sanctions should be employed to a demand for comparability with wages in the gas and electricity supply industries.

Mr Ronald Keating, assistant general secretary of NUPE, said industrial action was inevitable if the employers did not honour a comparability study recently carried out comparing rates of pay in the three utilities. Water workers say they are £10 a week worse off than gas and power workers.

NUPE water employees have joined those in the General and Municipal Workers' Union in threatening strike action if parity is not conceded, and they will almost certainly be joined by members of the Transport and General Workers' Union who meet today.

The water workers have rejected just over 13 per cent, but local government manual workers will today sign an agreement for almost exactly the same rises.

The executive committee of NUPE decided to accept the offer after an overwhelming majority of their 450,000 town hall manual staff voted in favour in a ballot. The agreement covers 1,100,000 men and women.

## Man arrested in scuffles at factory

From Our Correspondent

Demonstrators clashed with police and a man was arrested as 150 pickets tried to block non-union workers entering a factory at Slough, Berkshire, yesterday.

The demonstration, called by the General and Municipal Workers' Union, began peacefully outside the Chix sweet and bubble gum factory in Farnham Road.

Some pickets laughed and joked with the 40 police called to cover the demonstration. But when a mini bus tried to take non-union workers into the factory through a rear gate, scuffles broke out. Pickets yelling "scabs" and "traitors" tried to hold the gates closed and block the van.

No one was hurt in the mini bus got through. The demonstration was the latest step in a dispute which has lasted 13 weeks.

It was called in support of 96 Asian women workers, members of the GMWU, who have been on strike since October 10 demanding recognition of their union.

The dispute is fast becoming another Grunwick", said one union official. "All we want is for the company to recognize our union, but they refuse to talk to us."

The company refused to comment.

## Correction

An article on the state of the profession on January 3 gave the average salary for hospital doctors in Brindis as £15,000. That figure is the top of the consultants' scale.

## Call for innovation in higher education

By a Staff Reporter

The Government should introduce a measure of manpower planning to the higher education system to protect it against stagnation, Mr Alan Thompson, Deputy Secretary at the Department of Education and Science, told a Commons select committee yesterday. There had been no deterioration from the principle in 1963. Robbins report that higher education should be available for all who were able, qualified and wished for it.

But that did not mean students could follow whatever course they liked at whatever institution they wanted.

The higher education system had been expanding for many years and all its management and control mechanisms were based on that assumption, Mr Thompson said.

That was about to change for the first time in 30 years to a system that might be more or less static and contained.

It was not simply a question of less money. The 18-plus age group would drop fairly rapidly after 1982, and stability in higher education in the 80s had always been likely.

The Government's expenditure policy, which might mean no increase in funds for higher education over the next two or three years, had made it a reality sooner.

If this is the case, the question is how to ensure that stability does not become stagnation.

## Poorest 'hit by cuts in spending'

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent Millions of families face a fall in living standards because the Government has abandoned social priorities, a Child Poverty Action Group pamphlet says today. The proportion of national resources being devoted to the poorest has been cut, and may be reduced further in the next round of spending cuts.

The pamphlet points out that Britain spends less of its gross national product on social programmes than most other European countries and argues that "there is no economic imperative that requires the Government to engage in the 'tug of war'". On the contrary, orthodox economic analyses, supported by empirical evidence, suggest a need for an increase in public spending.

Present public spending cuts are inefficient because they are being made across the board, the pamphlet says. They do not make economic sense, place the main burden on the poor, and affect families most. It contrasts the £1 to £2 a week gained through tax cuts for families, living just above the official poverty line on wages of £60 to £80 a week, with the extra costs they face through school meals and transport charges, higher value added tax, rents and prescription charges.

"The social wage is as crucial for the living standards of millions of families as wages or salaries, and for many of the poorest it is vital", the pamphlet says.

Social spending should be seen as essential maintenance of the human factor in production, as investment in sickness prevention and cure, and as investment in families and in the future generation.

*Abandoning Social Priorities* by Alan Walker, Paul Ormerod and Larry Whitty (CPAG, 1 Macklin Street, London WC2) £1.05.



## Risks of glue sniffing

By Stewart Tendler

One of the attractions of glue sniffing for children may be that it combines childhood games and codes of behaviour with the use of substances akin to the alcohol drunk by adults, a conference was told in London yesterday.

Miss Anna Dixon, a member of the Government's Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs and a social worker at a London drug addiction clinic, said that for many children in their early teens the practice was a cheap alternative to drink. In most cases it was no more than a passing fashion.

Speaking at the first national conference on glue sniffing organized by Release (a charity which specializes in drug problems) Miss Dixon said the term was a misnomer. The attraction was in the vapours given off and the substances involved included not only some types of glue but also chemicals found in some household products.

Glue sniffing brought risks like many other fads and phases children went through but Miss Dixon said it would be interesting to compare the injuries they face through the "front" glue sniffing against "crazes" like skateboarding.

Dr Joyce Watson, research fellow at Glasgow University said that prolonged use often indicated a political struggle for the future of the country. The briefcase contained sensitive papers belonging to Mr William Wright, Assistant General Secretary of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants.

The chief, John Moroney, aged 19, of Church Hill, Wivenhoe, near Stowmarket, was locked in a police cell and questioned vigorously.

Mr Tim McNeilly, defending, said Mr Moroney was walking past Mr Wright's country home in Bacton, Suffolk, when he spotted the briefcase in a car and decided to take it.

He admitted stealing the briefcase last December and was fined £70 and ordered to pay Mr Wright £5 compensation. He was also ordered to pay £20 costs.

Some social workers believe that the real danger is not the wave of sniffing which can sweep through a school for a short time drawing publicity, but the individual child who continues the practice afterwards.

The conference, attended by more than 200 social workers, teachers and police officers, was called by Release to try to coordinate a response to glue sniffing which is usually found in children between 12 and 16.

Some social workers believe that the real danger is not the wave of sniffing which can sweep through a school for a short time drawing publicity, but the individual child who continues the practice afterwards.

The clamour for the publication of the report and the documents upon which it is based have only recently died down, particularly after Labour's last conference. This could be a response to conference decisions which some people are loath to accept even though they were democratically debated and arrived at.

It should be emphasized that the Underhill Report was like dozens of other reports which are submitted to the various sub-committees of the NEC and to the NEC itself, which are never published, but can be the basis for NEC policy-making or action.

The present argument is really around the question of the lengthy documents upon which the Underhill Report was based. The report arrived in the National Agent's office in plain envelopes without any covering notes and carried no imprint. One cannot be sure that they are authentic and it would surely be wrong for the Labour Party to print at great expense documents for the press, radio, TV, the party membership and affiliated organizations, giving them an importance they do not deserve. Having carefully read the recent articles by Michael

## Many GPs unaware of patient groups

By John Roper

Health Services Correspondent

Like any new idea in medicine, patient participation groups in family doctor's practices are having a hard time establishing themselves, a conference on the subject organized by the Royal College of General Practitioners was told yesterday.

He suggested the answer was an element of manpower planning to the higher education system to protect it against stagnation, Mr Alan Thompson, Deputy Secretary at the Department of Education and Science, told a Commons select committee yesterday. There had been no deterioration from the principle in 1963. Robbins report that higher education courses are organized and financed.

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## ORC SURVEY

Poll finds a deep unease with working of present political system and a desire for something better

## Voters in right mood for formation of a centre party

The mood of the British voting public appears to be right for the formation of a centre party. There is considerable apprehension about the Labour Party drifting to the left and the Conservative Party going to the right. But if Mr Jenkins decides to throw his hat into the ring his success will undoubtedly depend on the type of centre party he envisages.

For, though a clear majority of people favour the formation of a new party in the centre, there is no consensus on its component parts. There is also a strong desire, if possible, to avoid a split in the Labour Party and it is undoubtedly a political factor which the proponents of a centre party would have to evaluate and get right.

These are some of the key findings in a special poll on attitudes to the concept of a centre party commissioned by *The Times* and carried out between January 4 and 6 by Opinion Research and Communication, with a representative national growth sample of 1,039 electors in 100 constituencies in England, Scotland and Wales.

The survey shows that there is deep unease with the working of the present political system, and a desire for something better—including a fairer system of relating votes to political power.

Uneasiness goes well beyond the political parties and can be said to encompass most of what might loosely be termed the "political establishment"—including the unions and business.

This can be seen in the first table:—

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
The present political system no longer works properly	53	34	13
The Labour Party is moving too much to the left for my liking	60	22	18
The Conservative Party is moving too much to the right for my liking	46	34	20
The trade unions have too much power over the Labour Party	75	17	8
Business and industry has too much power over the Conservative Party	40	38	22
People don't want to support the Labour Party. Conservative Party have opportunities of making their views felt	55	35	10

The dissatisfaction with the way the political system is working is significantly greater among the Labour Party and the Liberals—possibly because Conservatives are suspending judgment to see how the new Conservative experiment in government works out:—

	C	Lab	L	Rest
Present political system no longer works properly	41	58	65	60
Disagree	40	29	27	16
Don't know	17	13	8	22

It is not unexpected that most Conservatives think that the Labour Party is moving too far to the left, but it is significant that four out of ten Labour voters share the same view:—

	C	Lab	L	Rest
Labour Party is moving too far to the left	82	33	71	47
Disagree	6	41	15	22
Don't know	12	20	14	31

A majority of Labour supporters think that the Conservative Party is moving too far to the right, but the extent of this disquiet is by no means as high. It is also interesting that only 21 per cent of Conservatives view this idea with alarm:—

	C	Lab	L	Rest
Conservative Party moving too far to the right	21	66	61	41
Disagree	68	12	22	29
Don't know	13	22	17	37

Predictably nine out of ten Conservatives and as many (86 per cent) of Liberals think the trade unions have too much power over the Labour Party. What is striking is that 56 per cent of Labour voters take the same view. Concern about the business world's grip on the Conservative Party is not so great: a bare majority of Labour voters (54 per cent) take this view, but in the case of supporters of the other parties it is only a substantial minority view. A clear majority of voters—55 per cent—would like to see a new party formed in the centre of British politics. But there is no consensus at all on its constituent parts:—

Q: Some people would like to see a new party formed somewhere in the political centre. Would you like to look at this card and say which is your own view?—

	All	C	Lab	L	Rest
I would like to see a centre party formed by the right wing and moderate wing of the Labour Party splitting away from the left wing	9	7	14	4	5
I would like to see a centre party formed by the moderates and the right wing Labour M.P.s joining up with the Liberals	14	4	22	23	7
I would like to see a centre party formed by the left wing of the Conservative Party joining with the Liberals	9	15	2	13	6
I would like to see a centre party made up of the Liberal Party and the moderates and right wing of the Labour Party and left wing of the Conservative Party	22	22	14	41	20
I am not in favour of a centre party being formed at all	32	40	33	14	27
Don't know/no idea of these	14	12	15	5	35

The first thing to be said about these figures is that only one third of voters feel satisfied enough with the present political alignment to reject the centre party concept positively.

The second is, despite the fact that it is their Government in power, Conservative voters are not much happier than Labour supporters. Thereafter, as might be expected, party opinions differ. Labour voters, not surprisingly, do not favour a left-wing-Conservative/Liberal centre party. Equally, Conservative voters are unenthusiastic about a Labour-moderates/Liberal coalition.

But in both parties something like one in two would favour one or other alliance to alter the present political landscape.

There are few significant regional variations. But in general it can be said that people in the South are less in favour of a link-up between the Labour Party moderates and the Liberals:—

	North	Midlands	South	Scotland/Wales
Don't know	18	19	9	15



David Steel: main contender for leadership of a new centre party.

The only other break worth mentioning is that people in the North, perhaps, are a little less for the political *status quo*:

	North	Midlands	South	Scotland/Wales
Not in favour of a centre party being formed at all	26	34	34	35

At the time the poll was taken the voting intention was as follows: Conservative, 39 per cent; Labour, 42 per cent; Liberal, 16 per cent; Nationalist, 2 per cent; Other party, 1 per cent; no voting intention, 11 per cent.

Two further questions were then asked to investigate the likely effect on voting patterns if Mr Jenkins (or indeed anyone else) decided the time had come to launch a centre party.

What came through was that a centre party which consists of a breakaway group of moderate and right-wing Labour Party would succeed only in splitting the Labour vote without having any real chance of winning power. The effect would probably be to give Britain two Liberal-sized parties in the centre instead of one. For such a centre party would take very little support away from the Liberals (3 per cent) and would not attract more than 16 per cent of votes in total.

A much more viable runner would be a centre party formed by fusing the moderates and right wing of the Labour Party with the existing Liberal Party. This would give a voting support of about one quarter of the voting population. But again (because there seems to be no consensus on what sort of creature a centre party ought to be) it would not seemingly achieve majority power. We would then end up with three parties of very roughly equivalent voting pull.

Q: If a centre party was formed by the moderates and right-wing members of the Labour Party splitting away from the left wing and they put up a candidate in your constituency, which of the following candidates would you be inclined to vote for?—

	All	C	Lab	L	Rest
Would	42	27	38	59	37
Would not	50	67	57	1	42
Don't know	8	6	7	—	21

It is not surprising that more Labour voters are pro-Liberal. What is interesting is that one in four Conservatives answer positively.

The second question is very hypothetical and, perhaps, should not be taken too seriously. There are three caveats: the first is that a centre party does not exist. Second, there is no genuine list of runners for its leadership. And, third, Mr Roy Jenkins's support is probably unfairly represented since he has been out of politics and the mainstream of news for some time—and visibility is most important in polling response. Even so, two items are

worthy of note. The first is that David Steel emerges clear favourite of our hypothetical list to lead a centre party, and second is that Mr Edward Heath, who has no party behind him, no close adherents, and gets very little political exposure, still comes a quite close second.

Q: If a centre party was formed and it won the next general election, which of the following politicians would you like to see leading it as Prime Minister?—

	All	C	Lab	L	Rest
David Steel	24	18	19	63	19
Edward Heath	19	41	5	5	12
Shirley Williams	16	5	29	10	11
Roy Jenkins	11	12	13	9	7
William Rodgers	1	1	3	—	—
None of these	18	19	17	9	26
Don't know	11	6	14	4	25

That underlying strength of the Liberals is underlined by a further warning sign: the desire of voters generally not to see the Labour Party fragment itself.

Q: Some people think, because of the present quarrels between the moderates and the left wing, that the Labour Party will split in two. Irrespective of which party you support, do you think that would be a good thing or a bad thing for the country?—

	All	C	Lab	L	Rest
Good thing	26	36	14	32	27
Bad thing	59	51	73	52	44
Don't know	15	13	13	16	29

Perhaps the most surprising feature of the tables is that a bare majority of Conservative voters (51 per cent) believe it would be a bad thing for the country to see the present factional troubles of the Labour Party lead to a permanent split. Despite this, the unease about the working of the present political system remained as the final question showed. The lobby for parliamentary reform and for the introduction of some sort of proportional representation system clearly has a lot of support—particularly in relating the number of votes cast to the number of seats a party wins:—

Q: Do you think it would be a good idea or a bad idea if a new system of voting was brought in?—

	Good idea	Bad idea	Don't know
(a) So that the number of seats a party wins in an election is in proportion to the number of votes it gets in an election	72	13	15
(b) Which would make it more difficult for the largest party in Parliament to do what it wants by taking a nice number of what the other parties want	45	35	20
(c) Which would only make it possible for one party to control Parliament after an election if it had won half or more of the votes	52	26	22

Analysed by party the Liberals, not unexpectedly, are more in favour of electoral reform, but the differences are not great. In general the unease cuts across parties and there would be a general welcome among voters for some sign that political power equated more fairly with votes cast.

\* All figures in the tables are percentages.

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PARLIAMENT, January 16, 1980.

## Gas bills likely to go up 50p a week but smaller increases in electricity charges proposed

House of Commons

The average family gas bill will rise by 50p a week next year. Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, said. He added that even after the price of natural gas rises, Britain was likely to have the lowest domestic gas and electricity tariffs in Europe.

Mr Howell (Guildford, C) had made a statement about financial support for the Gas Corporation and the electricity supply industry in England and Wales.

It is a fundamental objective of this Government's policy towards the nationalised industries that they should be set a clear financial discipline. We therefore opened discussions with the gas and electricity industries on medium-term financial targets for the period 1980-81 and 1982-83. The external financial limits for 1980-81 announced last November were set in the course of those discussions, which have now been satisfactorily concluded.

In a period of international uncertainty over fuel supplies and rapidly rising fuel costs, it is important that consumers should be aware of the true cost of fuel they are using. The prices which consumers pay for different fuels must reflect that value-taking into account, in particular, the fact that oil and gas supplies are limited.

We must conserve our scarce energy supplies for future generations. After a year in which crude oil prices have risen by 100 per cent or more, this is bound to mean heavy increases in other fuel prices.

The need to move to economic pricing has been our main consideration in setting the financial targets for the two industries.

I recognise that adjusting to an era of higher energy prices brings serious problems for many consumers, especially the old and the poor. The Government's assistance with heating costs announced by the Secretary of State for Social Services on October 22 last was designed to provide worthwhile help for those in most need.

We shall take proper account of the cost of energy in our social policies to ensure maximum benefit levels, particularly the levels of extra heating additions. We are reviewing, in this context, the whole range of help available to assist consumers with fuel bills.

Turning back to gas first: there are five reasons why domestic gas prices will rise to rise.

First, our reserves of natural gas reserves are finite and increasingly valuable national resources. If the price is too low, we shall burn it up too fast and bring forward the day when we have to turn to more expensive sources of supply.

Second, in the short term too, low prices can cause peak demand to surge, above what it would otherwise bring, the risk of shortages and supply cuts on cold winter days.

Third, gas from new North Sea fields will cost several times more than earlier gas supplies and prices must reflect these much higher costs.

Fourth, a sensible approach to pricing is vital if we are to achieve a proper balance of supply and demand, as between all consumers of gas. For industrial and consumer

customers it has been the long-standing policy of the British Gas Corporation to sell gas at a price fully related to that of the competing oil companies. The Government endorses this policy.

The only alternative would be some form of arbitrary rationing and the risk of ever-increasing supply shortfalls.

Fifth, artificially low prices concentrate the benefits on those who have access to gas supplies at the expense of the rest of the population. Correct pricing is essential if some of the financial proceeds from gas sales go to resource areas to be secured for the benefit of the nation as a whole.

Even the Price Commission in their report last July, before recent oil price increases, concluded that domestic tariffs should be kept to 35 per cent higher in real terms.

Against this background, and the background of soaring world oil prices, we have set the British Gas Corporation a target, expressed as an average annual rate of return to be achieved over the period April 1980 to March 1983 of 9 per cent on net assets available at current cost.

The target is related to current cost operating profit after taking account of depreciation but before interest and tax. It will be adjusted downwards as a result of the introduction of the proposed new current cost accounting standard.

The target rate of return is expressed as an average over three years: the actual rate of return is likely to be lower than 9 per cent at first, but will increase progressively over the period.

As an average, quarterly domestic bill now is about £25. Next year it will be £27 more. About £4 of this will be due to inflation and the other £23 to a real increase in gas prices. Average bills next year will be 50p a week higher.

In reply to Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab) he said that nationalised industries were obliged to follow the code of conduct on cutting supplies from the most sick and infirm, and those on social welfare.

There have been complaints (continued) about the way the code is used and we are reviewing the way it is being applied. It is an independent review.

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Mr Peter Shore (Bristol, South-East, Lab) asked what measures were a matter for British Gas. However, in broad terms the Government expects domestic gas prices to increase this year by 10 per cent over and above the rate of inflation, followed by comparable real increases in the following two years.

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## HOME NEWS

## Cell deaths inquiry is not justified, policemen's leader says

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation, yesterday attacked a "most unwarranted and unsubstantiated smear on the reputation of the police service" over the deaths in police custody. Speaking to a federation meeting in Coventry, he rejected demands for a government-appointed public inquiry.

He said: "There is nothing in the figures which even begins to justify the campaign which is now being waged in the press and which is about to be launched in Parliament."

He said that certain MPs and newspapers had seized on understandable public anxiety about the deaths of Liddle Towers, James Kelly and Blair Peach (who was not in custody), to suggest there was something sinister about the number of deaths in police custody over the past 10 years.

"No matter that there has been no public complaint about any of them, no matter what death the cause of death has been determined in more than 90 per cent of the cases by public inquests; it is enough to suggest that because these deaths happened in police custody, the body there is a possibility that they were caused by the police," Mr Jardine said.

"I say it is a vicious attack on the integrity of thousands of police officers who have had responsibility for making arrests and for the custody of prisoners."

Every force had specific standing orders setting out the responsibilities of duty officers and officers in charge of cells and so on. "It is only the police who have been blamed for stations."

The question of what went on in police cells was under careful supervision. "Let us bear in mind also that when police cells, every day of the week, are seen by defence solicitors, by probation officers and relatives of prisoners."

The federation's objection to a public inquiry was that

Letters, page 15



Lydia Kirk, aged 24, Winchester Cathedral's first woman stonemason.

## Public school comes under scrutiny in TV series

## Here the corridors of power begin

By Diana Gledhill  
Education Correspondent

The most intimate, detailed and objective account to date of one of Britain's most controversial institutions, the public school, starts today in a series of 10 30-minute television documentaries on BBC 2.

Life at Radley College near Oxford, one of Britain's top 10 public schools, or which both Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and Peter Cook, the comedian, are old boys, was filmed in the Easter and summer terms last year.

The opening film tells viewers the importance of schools like Radley is disproportionate to their numbers. Only 5 per cent of boys go to public schools, but that 5 per cent dominates nearly every major institution in the land, not least the Cabinet, composed entirely of ex-public school boys, with one exception: the Prime Minister herself.

It is this predominance which arouses passions. Public schools are loved, hated, honoured and reviled. The present Government is pledged

to spend public money on sending talented boys from poor families to schools like Radley. At the moment fees are nearly £3,000 a year which ensures that few of today's pupils are of lowly social origin.

Mr Denis Silk, the headmaster, who courageously agreed to the filming of every detail of the school's life, including the more sensitive issues of homosexuality and alcohol abuse, said that he had seen six of the 10 programmes and believed that they were a very fair representation of the dull life of a school.

"I think Michael Denton, the producer, has tried to find the heartbeats of Radley. That's damn difficult to do when you are trailing round a television crew with you, but he's achieved the next best thing. Don't expect any fireworks; a documentary isn't supposed to thrill, but rather simply to show what's going on."

Turning to the assisted places scheme, Mr Silk said that he planned to tell the Government that he was prepared to help in any way he

could, even if necessary by taking in day-boys. Radley has only boarders at present. The Government's proposed scheme would help only with tuition fees at independent schools.

Mr Silk, who is the son of a poor medical missionary and a former scholar at Christ's Hospital, said: "I've known poverty, but I've been damn lucky. And I would like the kind of education we offer at Radley to be available to every child in the country, regardless of their parents' income."

In the opening film, Mr Silk is seen giving a pep talk to a group of new boys in the college chapel: "We regard this side (indicating the chapel) of what we do here as the most important side of all. You will spend a small part of each day in here in the real religious life begins when you walk out of that door."

"Some of you may be blessed with good brains; others not. That doesn't matter two-pence: it's how hard you try. You come to school for one thing—to acquire the right habits, for life."

## Boy was crushed to death by giant snowball

Telford

A schoolboy aged seven was asphyxiated, trapped under a huge snowball, according to a pathologist's report at a coroner's inquest yesterday. The inquest was adjourned.

Anthony Bowers of Leighton, Lawley Bank, Telford, died despite neighbours' efforts to revive him.

He, his brother, Stephen, aged 10, and their friend, Ian Brice, also 10, built the snowball.

Police said it was about 5ft in diameter and the boys began to roll it down an incline on Lawley Common.

Anthony appeared to have slipped beneath the snowball, which weighed about three hundredweight. The other boys wake up the snowball but found Anthony unconscious.

## Football ground murder charge

Barry Rondeau, aged 19, of Lemming Mead, Mitcham, London, was remanded in custody until tomorrow, by the ardent stipendiary magistrate yesterday charged with the murder of a Swansea man.

He was charged with the murder near Cardiff City football ground of Mr David Williams, aged 51, a labourer, of Maytree Avenue, West Cross, Swansea. Seven men from the London area will appear before the Cardiff magistrates today charged with causing an affray on the ground on Monday.

## Football chiefs rail bid fails

Stuart Dryden, aged 53, chairman of Nottingham Forest Football Club, who was jailed for six months for obtaining £62 by deception, yesterday filed an application for bail pending trial against sentence. The application was made to Justice Peter Paine in chambers at Lincoln. He has decided to refer the matter to the Court of Appeal.

## West Indian girls do well in school, study shows

By Frances Gibb

West Indian schoolchildren, particularly girls, pull ahead as they go through school and do better in later years than their English classmates, an article published today says.

Dr Geoffrey Driver, a research fellow at Leeds University, argues that his study refutes the "accepted wisdom" that West Indian children do not do as well at school as they could.

He comes up with a new pecking order of achievement among schoolchildren, with West Indian girls first, then English boys, followed by West Indian boys and lastly English girls.

The article, in *New Society*, comes just after the publication by the National Children's Bureau of a survey showing that second generation immigrant children do as well as, if not better than, indigenous children from similar home backgrounds.

## More comfort offered on inter-city coaches

By Michael Bally  
Transport Correspondent

National Express inter-city coaches, which lost over a million passengers since British Rail launched its highly successful cut-price railcards for students, pensioners and families, is to fight back with more comfortable coaches, a more sophisticated network of interchanges, and a six-figure advertising campaign, the parent state-owned National Bus Company disclosed yesterday.

There will be no price war; coach fares are going up by 15 to 20 per cent this year and the days of road travel costing only half the rail fare are long past, the bus company admitted, although coach travel is still cheaper on many routes and substantially so on some.

The present ten million passengers a year on 2,000 inter-city coaches could be increased if only more people would try it, market research has shown. A Disney-style frog will be urging them from the television screens to "Hop off" with National Express.

An unexpected finding of consumer research is that the elderly make up only 16 per cent of coach traffic. The young account for over half.

Vigorous competition from private coach operators is expected as a result of the Transport Bill. But National Express, with the advantage of a coach network of 600 routes linking about every town in the country, regards that as "a sput rather than a threat". Mr John Birks, controller, said in London yesterday.

## Conveyance classes to cut house sale cost

By Robin Young  
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Britain's first school of do-it-yourself house conveyancing was launched yesterday at the House of Commons.

The British School of Conveyancing will offer evening tutorials in a hired hall at Sidcup and correspondence courses, and claims that it will enable its students to save between £500 and £800 on the legal costs of buying and selling their homes.

Mr Kenneth Weetch, Labour MP for Ipswich and a fierce opponent of the solicitors' monopoly in conveyancing, said that the cost of moving house in 1980 were "horrible". It would cost more than £2,000 to exchange homes priced at £30,000, even if the move was only across the street. Conveyancing charges alone would be over £700.

"Others have merely changed the name of 'manufacturers' recommended price' to 'normal price' and others again are quoting comparisons with totally spurious 'after-the-sale' prices' which they will never charge."

"In some cases 'usual price' is actually defined in small print in the advertisements as a price that has been charged in just one day's trading at the company's branch in London. These prices could be completely artificial," Mr Hardy said.

Mr Geoffrey Hannibal, chief

## Price regulations 'may prove unenforceable'

By Our Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Trading standards officers for Nottinghamshire County Council said: "At present we have not considered bringing prosecutions. We are more inclined to advise the trade. The order is very complex and even when we have studied it we cannot be certain that our interpretation is correct."

There have been complaints that unscrupulous traders are evading the provisions of the Price Marking (Bargain Offers) Order, 1979, which bans misleading price claims.

Mr Stephen Hardy, director of a furnishing company in Nottingham, said he had evidence of rival retailers evading the legislation in four ways.

"Some are continuing to quote price comparisons with manufacturers' recommended prices", he said. That was banned for beds last July and for domestic electrical appliances, consumer electronic goods, carpets and furniture on December 10.

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Mr Christopher Rogers, spokesman for the Institute of Trading Standards Administration, the trading standards officers' professional association, said: "The feeling in the institute is that the order has been lumbered with enforcing something nobody understands."

## Couple lose action on children's education

From Our Correspondent  
Great Witley

Geoffrey Harrison, aged 41, and his wife, Iris, aged 37, were convicted by magistrates at Great Witley, Hereford and Worcester, yesterday for failing to comply with school attendance orders in respect of three of their children. They were granted an absolute discharge.

Mrs Harrison, who has been leading a campaign for the right to educate children without interference from the local authority, said last night that she would appeal. She would not be sending her children to a state school.

The Harrisons live on a remote smallholding near Tenbury, Wells and said during the hearing that they were educating their children by a progressive method known as the "autonomous system", in which the children are encouraged to learn by themselves rather than being formally taught.

Hereford and Worcester County Council had placed attendance orders on Andria, aged 15, Grant, aged 14, and Newall, aged 10.

Mr Colman Treacy, for the defence, said the Harrisons' methods of teaching were designed to make the children self-reliant, confident, capable and mature individuals.

"The authority takes the view that there is only one kind of education. If this view is accepted it will be a sad day."

Mr John Watson, author of two textbooks on do-it-yourself conveyancing and the school's founder, and principal tutor, said he had been offering advice service for four years. Of thousands who registered, only one found a difficulty to complex to deal with over the telephone.

## Midwife shortage 'growing'

By a Staff Reporter

Maternity units in many areas of the country are inadequately staffed because of the lack of trained midwives and the situation is getting worse, the parliamentary social services committee was told yesterday.

Mr John Watson, author of two textbooks on do-it-yourself conveyancing and the school's founder, and principal tutor, said he had been offering advice service for four years. Of thousands who registered, only one found a difficulty to complex to deal with over the telephone.

The committee, which was originally set up to examine the financial difficulties of the service, did not claim overtime or time off in lieu.

Miss Joyce Beak of the college said that midwives could help to bring down the maternity mortality rate if they were allowed to contribute more to antenatal care.

The midwives were demanding a 37½ hour week which would worsen the shortage.

Miss Ruth Wilday, a member of the college's council, said that the service had been run on the goodwill of the midwives long enough. Many worked much longer than the 40 hours they were supposed to, and because of the financial difficulties of the service, did not claim overtime or time off in lieu.

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## HOME NEWS

## Saving of £11.6m is expected in loss of 246 'quangos' after review of 2,117 organizations

By Peter Hennessy

The results of the Prime Minister's long awaited attack on secondary bureaucracy, the non-departmental public bodies (popularly known as "quangos") whose growth has mushroomed in the past decade, were announced in a White Paper yesterday. Of the 2,117 organizations examined, 246 will disappear, 3,700 ministerial appointments and 250 posts will be terminated, achieving a total saving of £11.6m.

No bodies will be established without the closest scrutiny and the policy of "hiving off" government functions to agencies like the Manpower Services Commission, recommended by the Fulton report of 1968, has been abandoned. The 1,871 organizations that have survived will be subject to sharper examination from the Comptroller and Auditor General, Parliament's spending watchdog, and the new select committee of the House of Commons.

The review of non-departmental public bodies was conducted, on behalf of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, by Sir Leo Platzyk, former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Trade. It took three months and cost £35,000. It offers ministers scope for a further reduction in coming months of about 3,500 ministerial appointments and an extra 250 permanent jobs.

The next round is likely to bite most deeply into the committee structure of the Manpower Services Commission. Thought was given to returning the functions of the commission to the Department of Employment, but Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, ruled out such a move as it would have incensed the TUC who set great store by the commission in its present form. Mrs Thatcher accepted that view.



Sir Leo Platzyk: Questions for future reviews.

The largest financial saving of £7.35m will come from bodies controlled by the Price Commission and the Mersey Tidal Estuary Authority, killing off the 2,000 jobs of redshanks, dunlin waders, gulls and ducks, as being requested by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

It is recognized in Whitehall that the savings achieved by the Platzky review are tiny when set alongside a total annual public expenditure of £70,000m. Emphasis is placed, however, on the changed climate which will, it is claimed, prevent further proliferation of a creeping bureaucracy and on the greater financial stringency and scrutiny that Sir Leo believes necessary for organizations that are generally immune from market forces.

Sir Leo notes that excessive scrutiny might act as a "freshest deterrent to public service" and his report is explicit about the persistent difficulty ministers and permanent secretaries experience in finding people of sufficient calibre to fill vacancies on public bodies.

Sir Leo who retired from the Civil Service at the end of the month, has left a list of questions for the Civil Service Department, which will carry on his work to put before ministers in future reviews of public bodies. They are:

1. Is the function which is being carried out essential? Or, if not, is it valuable enough to justify the time and money spent on it? 2. If the answer is that the function is either non-essential or sufficiently valuable, is it best carried out by the non-departmental body in question rather than by another means? 3. Is it being carried out well and economically? 4. Conversely, would there be any substantial loss or damage if the body were wound up?

Report on Non-Departmental Public Bodies (Stationery Office Command 7797), £5.75.

## Unwilling terror aid criticized

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Ways in which security firms and insurance companies seeking to protect people from terrorist kidnapping can unwittingly increase danger are described by Mr B. Hayes, Assistant Chief Constable responsible for operations in the North Constabulary, in the international quarterly *Police Studies*.

Private agencies in one sense provide a worthwhile service by protecting individuals and organizations who can afford the cost, he says. But in other ways they exacerbate and increase the violence associated with terrorism by driving the terrorists to greater efforts to attain a well-protected target.

In the field of kidnapping, particularly in countries as far apart as Italy and Colombia, representatives of these organizations have sought to act as private mediators between the kidnappers and the victims' relatives or employers.

"This has operated to the disadvantage of the victims, the relatives, the police in the country concerned, and society in general."

With the growth of the special security industry, insurance companies have increasingly issued policies against the risk of kidnapping. Mr Hayes says:

"As a natural progression, terrorists, extremists and criminals are encouraged to kidnap well-insured individuals, knowing that a ransom is capable of being paid. Families and employers are encouraged to negotiate with the perpetrators, often against the law, and using the professional negotiator.

"This frustrates the efforts of the security forces, and lowers their image in the eyes of the public, while at the same time enhancing the standing of the terrorist.

"In this respect, it might be felt that the hard line constantly adopted by the Israelis and by the West Germans in the Schleyer case and the Italians in the Moro case is the only long-term solution."

## 60 MPs condemn dismissal of prison visitor

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Sixty Labour MPs have so far signed an early day motion put down yesterday by Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party's civil liberties group, after its meeting with Mr Jonathan Pollitz, the Wormwood Scrubs prison visitor dismissed by the Home Office.

The motion condemns the action by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, when Mr Pollitz's "only offence was to tell the truth about the incident at the prison on August 31". The motion calls on Mr Whitelaw to reinstate Mr Pollitz for giving his life with the recommendation of the May Committee for a "new openness of approach" and "openness of mind" by the Home Office towards public discussion of prison matters.

Mr Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk, has also asked Mr Whitelaw to clarify the position of Miss Kay Douglass, another voluntary worker at the prison, who has been put under pressure. Like Mr Pollitz she appeared on the television programme *Thames News*.

A nuclear underground regional headquarters during a flooding emergency.

Photograph by The Sunday Independent, Plymouth

## Landowners 'cannot rely on relief from tax'

By John Young

Planning Reporter

Landowners lived in a dream world if they planned their hopes on future tax concessions, the chairman of the Royal Commission on the Environment, Lord Northfield, said yesterday.

In addition to the conference room on the first floor, the regional commissioner, sub-regional commissioner and a senior member of staff, have offices with beds (army-pattern) folded against the wall.

The second floor is given largely to living quarters, but there is a separate self-contained sick room. Alongside the restaurant the stainless steel of a white tiled well-equipped kitchen gleams.

The headquarters are part of a nationwide communications and proposed wartime government centres.

Information about attacks, bomb bursts and fall-out will originate at the United Kingdom's

likely to gain acceptance, he suggested.

It would mean that landowners would become a tax haven on a very scale, with future generations assured of good living off totally protected capital, including that proportion of the assets that would otherwise have to be surrendered or sold to pay some form of estate duty.

Commander Michael Saunders Watson, a member of the taxation committee of the Country Landowners' Association, argued that few landowners saw their property either as an asset which could be disposed of for quick profits or as a long-term investment.

They saw their role as one of long-term management and protection of agricultural land, said yesterday.

Addressing a conference in London organized by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Lord Northfield remarked on the vast change in the prosperity and future expectations of the farming industry.

A typical 1,000-acre estate was worth £1m. "Just what capital tax relief can we expect from government on personal holdings of this market value?" he said.

The idea that payment of capital transfer tax or its equivalent should be deferred until the inheritor sold all or part of the property was hardly

likely to be accepted, he suggested.

Landowners have a right to expect that the tax system will be fair and just, he said.

The idea that payment of capital transfer tax or its equivalent should be deferred until the inheritor sold all or part of the property was hardly

likely to be accepted, he suggested.

Nine men were being interviewed last night by detectives from Scotland Yard's flying squad and senior officers.

The raids followed information received from convicted criminal who has been housed at Twickenham police station for some time.

Last night Scotland Yard would not comment on the investigations that are being led by Det. Chief Supt. Robert Wilson of the serious crimes squad.

Fifteen officers took part in the raids, which were carried out with warrants under the

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## WEST EUROPE

**Synod debate reveals Dutch Catholics split into five groups**From Peter Nichols  
Rome, Jan 16

It was a predominantly bleak day at the Dutch synod in the Vatican. The more starry-eyed supporters of innovation were reminded early that a state of communion within the Church could never be limited by human concepts nor lived on earth in its perfection.

This was the second day of debate on the report of the synod's secretary on the problems which had convinced the Pope to summon all the Dutch bishops to this unprecedented special synod.

More by luck than any sleight of hand on the part of the conservatives present, the criticisms of some of the Dutch experiments coincided with publication by the Vatican of a much fuller summary of the discussions, though individual speakers were not identified.

There was much talk of groups. The old problem of the subjective in religious belief arose with the distinction made between those whose point of departure is what the faith affirms and those who begin from what they themselves feel.

An example given was the Eucharist: some wanted to accept the explicit content of the faith following the Second Vatican Council and the Roman Missal while others wanted to introduce into the liturgy elements from their own experience.

Another attempt at grouping the feelings prevalent among Dutch Catholics ended by identifying five. The first was of long-standing fidelity to the Church with roots going back before the Second Vatican Council with respect to authority and the life of prayer.

Then there was a numerous group of average Catholics who loved the Church were interested in the Second Vatican Council, were active and interested in the realities of the world.

A smaller third group had drifted away from the institutional Church because it saw as being in opposition to evangelical values.

A fourth group was on the frontier: it had not left the Church explicitly and still turned to it in different

**New claims in affair of Bokassa diamonds**From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, Jan 16

Once again *Le Canard Enchaîné*, the satirical French weekly, is digging for diamonds. A new document on the "affair of the Bokassa diamonds" involving President Giscard d'Estaing has been published in today's issue.

A final group was totally outside the Church and the faith but remained open to invitations on the part of the Church to return.

Some Dutch Catholics had the impression of being misunderstood by certain bishops and by Rome. Their difficulties were also due to the mass media and the human sciences.

In the new context, and in the search for new church structures a popularization had taken shape above all because of the efforts of small groups and periodicals.

On the whole, the Dutch Catholic community remained in so far as the work of the priests, the attachment to the papal authority and parish life went. Not only the Netherlands was in this position: the same could be said of all churches with a silent majority and some activist groups.

Interest in the universal Church remained strong among Dutch Catholics. There was an undoubted distinction made between the Pope and the Curia, with a lack of confidence in the latter.

There was a drop in belief in the Real Presence at the Eucharist, in the character of sacrifice of the Mass, in the sacramental character of the Eucharist and a falling off in the practice of confession. The sacraments were reduced too much to psychological level and more attention was given to the Scriptures than to tradition in the Church.

Not all was so sombre. The criticism of the Roman Curia, the Church's central administration, grew from the quarrels of the past 20 years, and from the lack of direct contacts which should be planned and continuous.

An exaggerated pessimism on the present situation could give the impression of a lack of confidence on the part of the faithful who had difficulty in following the Church because they felt misunderstood.

But there was cause for moderate optimism because never before had there been such active participation by many lay people who know their own responsibilities and those of the bishop.

When the President was questioned about this on television on November 27, he replied that "one must let base things die of their own poison".

There was no comment from the Elysée Palace today.

In the same issue this journal also claims that French agents "bribed the Palace in Berengo after the Emperor's fall and found a ring with a 62-carat diamond as well as a jar containing thousands of uncut diamonds."

**EEC move on trade relief for Yugoslavs**From Michael Hornsby  
Brussels, Jan 16

News of President Tito's ill-health, and fear that Moscow might seek to influence events in Yugoslavia were removed from the scene, have spurred the EEC into trying to accelerate agreement on long stalled trade concessions to the Yugoslavs.

Despite frequent statements of support for Yugoslavia's independent position in the communist world, powerful economic and trading interests in EEC member states have so far blocked attempts to give Yugoslavia more generous access to Community markets.

The foreign ministers also gave a sympathetic hearing to a West German proposal for closer economic and commercial cooperation with the Gulf states — Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Oman.

The Germans suggest that the agreement the EEC is due to sign next month in Kuala Lumpur with the Asian countries — Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines — should be the model for the new relationship with the Gulf states.

Although the German idea pre-dates events in Afghanistan, Bonn argues that it has acquired new relevance because of the sharpening of the Soviet threat to the region, and that it should be seen as more than simply a means of securing oil supplies.

The German initiative has been inspired to a large degree by the lack of progress in the so-called Euro-Arab dialogue, an attempt launched by the EEC after the 1973 oil crisis to establish closer relations with the Arab world in general.

Bonn contends that the Nine would be better to concentrate their efforts on a smaller group of Arab countries which not only have close ties of friendship with several EEC states, but also have close historical links with each other and share a broadly similar outlook.

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**Crisis in Belgium as party withdraws from coalition**

Brussels, Jan 16.—Belgium has been plunged into a new political crisis today after one of the five political parties withdrew from the centre-left coalition because of disagreement on constitutional reforms.

Mr. Wilfried Martens, the Prime Minister, announced that King Baudouin had accepted the resignation of the two ministers and one deputy minister belonging to the Brussels-based Front Démocratique des Francophones (FDF).

The four remaining parties, the French-speaking and Flemish-speaking wings of the Social Christians and Socialists, still have a working majority in Parliament.

But the FDF's defection deprives them of the two-thirds majority needed to push through constitutional amendments granting a large measure of autonomy to the regions. The amendments are an attempt to reduce antagonism between the Flemish and French-speaking communities.

The resigning Government members are: Mr. Lucien Owers, the Foreign Commerce Minister, Mr. Leon Defosse, the Minister for Brussels Affairs, and Mr. François

Mr. Martens will make a policy statement to the Parliament tomorrow and ask for a vote of confidence, Mr. Willy Claus, the Deputy Premier, said. —Reuters.

meant that it dealt with 24,242 cases last year compared with 12,994 in 1977, but at the same time the waiting list for judgments grew.

The court is worried that this growing and inevitable delay in obtaining a hearing will result in fewer people being prepared to put their cases forward even though they ought to do so. At the same time the court is worried that sheer pressure of work could mean its own decisions will be of a poorer quality.

Civil cases represent two-thirds of the court's work, although appeals in this field are growing more slowly than in penal cases which jumped by 14.27 per cent over the previous year. The court quashed all three death sentences passed by lower courts.

The court has also noticed an increasing number of people seeking compensation for false imprisonment. These cases used to average about 30 a year but last year the court dealt with 57.

This pressure on the court

has also played its part with more people going to law for compensation after being made redundant.

Minutes after the court

thieves take £1m cash from aircraft they told to halt

Rome, Jan 16.—A pilot was duped into halting a Swissair DC9 airliner about to take off from Rome's Leonardo da Vinci airport, while thieves stole two film pouches containing about £1m worth of cash from its cargo hold.

Police said the thieves dressed in fake airline overalls radiated the pilot from an airport vehicle to stop the aircraft for an urgent check of leaking fuel. They then drove out, opened the cargo hold and stole the bags. —Reuters, AP.

Minutes after the theft, the aircraft left for Zurich, with its

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## AFGHANISTAN/IRAN

## US studies new security arrangement in SW Asia

From David Cross  
Washington, Jan 16

"President Carter is considering building a strengthened framework for regional cooperation" in South-West Asia, Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, disclosed today.

Certain elements already in the Administration's strategy would be included, he said, such as increased American forces in the Indian Ocean area; increased assistance to nations in the area, such as Pakistan, which are threatened by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan; and encouragement of "regional peace" between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

The idea of what the American press has already described as a new "Carter Doctrine" was first mentioned publicly by Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's national security adviser, in an interview with the *Wall Street Journal* yesterday.

"We are prepared to work to create a cooperative security framework for the region in a variety of ways," Mr Brzezinski said. "This doesn't require, in all cases, either physical or formal arrangements of the kind that have come to be associated with the other areas (like Nato).

"Nonetheless, the trend is towards increased military presence in the region, towards greater utilization of available facilities, towards a regional security framework including also the United States."

Full details of the Administration's thinking are expected next week when President Carter delivers his annual State of the Union message to a joint session of Congress here.

Asked about the possible American use of military facilities in Kenya, Somalia and Oman, Mr Vance said today that "reactions arising from our preliminary discussions have been positive".

However, American plans concentrated not on a huge United States base, but the use of facilities that exist in various countries which would be available to the United States in connexion with the increased presence which the United States has there and would intend to keep there for the foreseeable future".

The Secretary of State also played down possible future co-operation between Washington and Peking.

Meanwhile, Mr Harold Brown, the Defence Secretary, has said that some of the Soviet troops in Afghanistan have reached the borders with Pakistan and Iran: "Any further action by them to go beyond (Afghanistan) into Iran or Pakistan would be very, very much more serious still", he said.

## Tory urges US war threat against Cuba

By Our Political Editor

Growing Conservative back-bench pressure for counter-measures against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan now include urging to encourage the United States to threaten to "retake" Cuba.

At a private meeting on Tuesday evening of the Conservative foreign affairs committee some right wingers were reported to be electrified—and more moderate MPs in a state of consternation—to hear Mr Peter Tapsell, the former front bench spokesman on Treasury and Foreign Affairs, demand warlike retaliation.

Mr Tapsell wanted the Russians to be given an ultimatum to withdraw from Afghanistan and if they did not, for the United States to invade Cuba

## Communist parties critical of Soviet intervention rebuked for using 'bourgeois' arguments

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, Jan 16

*New Times* said a lively discussion had started among left-wing forces on the nature and forms of international solidarity with revolutionary parties forced to resist the Soviet Union's aggression of biased comments, using bourgeois arguments and misunderstanding international solidarity.

The point at issue was whether the Americans and the Russians were equally guilty for the situation in Afghanistan. Such an approach is completely unjustified because it completely ignores the chief factor: namely, the radical difference in the nature and foreign policy objectives laid down in international treaties.

The magazine listed some of the parties which had given a resolute rebuttal to the slanders campaign unleashed by the enemies of peace and detente.

But against this background the biased comments of some organs of the communist press are clearly dissonant. The authors presented the events in Afghanistan in a distorted light, using arguments from bourgeois sources.

This was "all the more strange" as they had ignored the official statements of the Afghan Government.

Japan's dilemma, page 18

## Carrington visit to Khyber Pass

From David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
Khyber Pass, Jan 16

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, came face-to-face with the Afghan Army at the top of the Khyber Pass today. The detachment of Afghan soldiers which guarded the frontier post, no more than a simple iron rail across the road, stood about looking somewhat bemused at his arrival.

Down the road behind the guard post stood a white fort with a red flag, and beyond that a stupendous panorama of mountain peaks, range upon range, stretching into the heart of Afghanistan.

Lord Carrington, with a garland of yellow flowers round his neck, was quickly surrounded by a crowd of curious tribesmen who had come in from their mountain villages.

One of the mullahs or tribal elders, began explaining to the Foreign Secretary what had happened to them. Their homes, he said, had been strafed by Russian helicopter gunships and their people had been bombed with napalm.

Before flying off in a helicopter to inspect a refugee camp, Lord Carrington was given a crisp analysis of the military position by the corps commander, Lieutenant-General Fazle-Haq, Governor of the North West Province.

Pakistan, he said, shared a border of 1,200 miles with Afghanistan but its rough and mountainous terrain made it difficult or even impossible to control.

The military danger, as the general sees it, is that when the campaigning season started in April or May, the tribesmen would start to make forays across the border to harass the Russians. Retaliation was a recognized practice, and Russian retaliation could lead to a deep strike inside Pakistan.

At a final press conference in the elegant ballroom of the Governor's Residence, Lord Carrington gave his impressions, before flying on to Delhi.

Britain would do what it could to help, he said. "You know that Pakistan has the support of Britain in its determination to maintain its own integrity and independence as a nation," he said.

## Tehran threat to halve oil production

From Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent  
Tehran, Jan 16

Iran may halve its oil production if allies of the United States join in economic sanctions against it.

Mr Ali Akbar Moinfar, Oil Minister, said today.

Referring to the possibility of sanctions by countries other than the United States, Mr Moinfar told a news conference: "It all depends on which countries participate. Any country which does will be deprived of oil."

He added: "Iran is prepared to reduce production to 1.5 million barrels a day if it comes to the worst." He said present production was running at between 3 million and 3.5 million barrels a day.

Sabotage last night blew up an oil pipeline running from Ahwaz to Abadan. The explosion started a fire.

Today held a limited celebration of the Shah's departure a year ago. The radio asked people to burn effigies of the Shah for 10 minutes at 3 pm and chant "Allah is great".

—Reuters and Agence France-Presse.

## Britain 'has obligation' to train Iranian servicemen

By Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent  
Tehran, Jan 16

The Ministry of Defence made it clear yesterday that there was no question of expelling a number of Iranian servicemen who are on courses at Royal Navy and Army training establishments in Britain.

But Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk, has promised the Government a barrage of questions during the next few weeks in an attempt to persuade it to change its mind.

About 70 countries have servicemen on various courses in this country, and Iran in the days of the Shah was an uncontroversial "customer".

The presence of Iranians under the present régime in Tehran is something of an embarrassment for the Government however, given its pledge of support for President Carter in his attempt to persuade Ayatollah Khomeini to release the embassy hostages.

The ministry refuses to disclose how many there are, while

## Karmal drive to gain legitimacy in foreign eyes

From Robert Fisk  
Kabul, Jan 16

"In this case, one is bound to ask: what then is international solidarity among revolutionaries? Does it boil down only to moral and diplomatic support and verbal wishes of success, or does it also consist of providing, under certain extraordinary circumstances, a material, including military assistance?"

The Journal, in a clear reference to Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan, said that in cases where such an "extreme need" had actually arisen, the Soviet Union had acted "in full accord with the norms of peaceful coexistence, laid down in international treaties".

To have denied help to Afghanistan would have left the Afghan revolution in his adverse reaction in Iran to his Soviet-supported coup this week.

Aware of Iranian fears that

Afghanistan may be used as a

springboard for a Soviet attack,

Mr Karmal continued: "My Government will never allow anybody to use our soil as a base against the Islamic revolution of Iran and against the interests of the fraternal Iranian people. We expect our Iranian brothers to take an identical

stance."

The new Government here has also been putting messages of good will from groups of Pushtuns and Baluchi tribesmen—whose repression under Mr Hafizullah Amin the Islamic clergy have often complained—and a message from Amnesty International expressing satisfaction with the release of political prisoners was given front-page treatment in the Afghan press.

However, Mr Karmal's campaign for respectability has a long way to go. The British, French, German and Italian Ambassadors, who were recalled after the coup, are still absent. The American Embassy, which has been in the care of a Chargé d'Affaires since the murder of the United States Ambassador during the previous regime, is unlikely to upgrade its political representation in the near future.

Most Western embassies, including the British, flew their national flags at half mast this week when the new Afghan Government called a "day of mourning" in memory of those who were murdered under Mr Amin's rule. But the British did not sign the Government's official book of condolences on the ground that this would constitute recognition of Mr Karmal's regime.

It was against this background and other events in the region that he had talked with President Sadat. These events included the flow of advanced Soviet arms to Syria, the acquisition by Jordan of advanced weaponry, the presence of Russians and Cubans in South Yemen and the sale of sophisticated American arms to Saudi Arabia.

Mr Karmal added: "If a Soviet invasion is assistance to a friend, what, God forbid, would be liable to happen were a so-called Palestinian state to be established in the land of Israel, or a similar creation under the rule of the Kadoumous and the Arafats", he said in reference to two leading PLO officials.

"Within a very short

## OVERSEAS



Paul McCartney, in handcuffs, is led away by police.

## Paul McCartney arrested in Tokyo

Tokyo, Jan 16.—Paul McCart

ney, the former Beatle, was

arrested by customs officers

when he arrived at Tokyo air

port from New York for a tour

with his group Wings, and later

questioned by Narcotics Control

officers.

A customs spokesman said

they would decide tomorrow

whether to cancel the 11 per

formances scheduled by Mr Mc

Cartney, aged 37, and his group.

He was to give them in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya from January 21 to February 2.

Almost 100,000 tickets for the concert have been sold, representing a possible loss of well over 100m yen (£186,000), music industry sources said.

Mr McCartney was accompanied by his wife, Linda, and four children.—Reuters.

## Many refugees may not vote in Rhodesia

From Nicholas Ashford  
Salisbury, Jan 16

A three-member planning

mission, headed by Mr Abdou Cissé, the Commission's co-ordinator, has been in Rhodesia for the past week to prepare for the repatriation programme which will be carried out in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Rhodesian authorities and voluntary organisations.

The Commission has launched an appeal for \$22m (about £10m) to cover the cost of the programme. There are an estimated 120,000 refugees in Mozambique, Zambia, Botswana and countries further to the north during the last few years of fighting.

It is already clear that by no means all the refugees will be back in Rhodesia by the time elections are held in February.

At the moment a repatriation programme of about 10,000 people a week is envisaged in Mozambique, about 60,000 in Zambia and more than 20,000 in Botswana.

The first refugees are due to arrive at the Tegwani mission near Plumtree, in the western states of Rhodesia, on Monday.

It is also hoped that refugees will start moving by train and air from Zambia to Rhodesia next week.

Meanwhile Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the Zanu organization which now calls itself simply the Patriotic Front, today had his first meeting with Lord Soames, the Governor, since his return to Rhodesia last Sunday.

The discussion, which dealt mainly with election matters but touched on the controversial issue of the actions of security force auxiliaries, was given priority to people of voting age.

The return of the refugees has already become a contentious issue. Bishop Abel Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council (Uan), who is responsible for organizing the repatriation programme, is to give priority to people of voting age.

He suggested this could be done by using Rhodesian security forces or by any Commonwealth or other force available.

From the Liberal benches, Mr David Steel, the party leader, said that the use of South African troops to guard the bridge was a provocative irritant in an otherwise totally successful ceasefire solution.

He urged the Government to look again at this.

He suggested that a Commonwealth force might guard the bridge until the situation was being vastly exaggerated in the eyes of many black people.

But Sir Ian was outwardly unmoved by the protests. He could not accept that a small South African presence to defend the Bair Bridge amounted to external interference. He told the House that there was a Commonwealth force close to the bridge to monitor what went on there.

The matter was being greatly exaggerated and the Government was in touch with Lord Soames to ensure that there was no external intervention or involvement in Rhodesia.

Sir Ian pointed out that there was only a small detachment of South African troops just across the border. The Governor decided that this small contingent was required to guard the bridge until the majority of the Sabi tribal trust land in the east of southern Rhodesia, on their way to a guerrilla assembly area known as "fox-trap". About 6,000 Zanu guerrillas have assembled at the area.

They were stopped by a group of armed Zanu guerrillas who asked them to identify themselves. However, after they explained who they were one of the guerrillas shot at Mr Parr British killer... kill the British" and opened fire.

The journalists—Mr Michael Farr of the *Daily Telegraph*, Mr Gregory Jaynes of *The New York Times* and Mr Sean Kelly of *The Voice of America*—were driving along a dirt road in the eastern Sabi tribal trust land in the east of southern Rhodesia, on their way to a guerrilla assembly area known as "fox-trap". About 21,284 guerrillas have gathered at assembly points there remain a considerable number still at large.

Relations between the British and Zanu (Frel) led by Mr Robert Mugabe, have not been so cordial, particularly since yesterday's statement by the Governor accusing elements of Zanu, the military wing of Zanu of flouting the ceasefire.

## Mugabe guerrilla fires on three Western journalists

From Our Own Correspondent

Salisbury, Jan 16

Three Western correspondents today narrowly escaped death when a guerrilla belonging to Mr Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (Zanu) opened fire on their car at point blank range.

The man who was at the wheel drove off. The guerrillas fired a fusillade of shots at the departing car but caused no damage.

The incident illustrates the fragility of the Rhodesian ceasefire which is now in its second week. Although 21,284 guerrillas have gathered at assembly points there remain a considerable number still at large.

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## OVERSEAS

## Britain and Chile to restore diplomatic relations to the level of ambassadors

By David Watts

Britain and Chile are to restore diplomatic relations to the ambassadorial level. There has been no ambassador in Santiago since early 1976 when the embassy was withdrawn in protest over the ill-treatment of Dr Sheila Cassidy. Chile did not replace its departing ambassador in 1977.

Dr Cassidy was arrested at a Roman Catholic monastery in Santiago in November, 1975, and accused by the Chilean Government of giving medical attention to leftist opponents of General Augusto Pinochet, who were then in hiding. She was held for two months, tortured and then expelled.

The Foreign Office said last night that consideration had been given to all aspects of relations between the two countries. It was considered that it was no longer in Britain's interests not to be represented in Santiago. The Government's view was that the posting of an ambassador in any country did not indicate support for or approval of any particular regime.

Noting that Britain had

joined in December in the United Nations condemnation of human rights abuses by the military regime in Chile, the spokesman said that the appointment of an ambassador would present an opportunity for the Government to make its views known at the highest level.

Aware of the controversy the long-awaited decision is likely to provoke, the Foreign Office said that the Government did not regard the case of Dr Cassidy as closed, nor that of Mr William Beaureire, an Anglo-Chilean with a British passport, who disappeared some years ago and is widely thought to have died at the hands of the Chilean security police.

The decision to restore relations with Chile has been taken with the full knowledge of the United States which has its own long-running dispute with the Chilean Government over the murder of Señor Orlando Letelier, the former Chilean Foreign Minister, who was killed in Washington.

The Chilean Government has consistently refused to extradite two agents of Dina, the former

## Technocrats conspicuous in Syria's new Cabinet

Damascus, Jan 16.—President Assad of Syria today swore into office a new 37-member Government formed against a background of widespread violence and economic discontent in the country.

The team comprises 23 members who have never before held ministerial posts, including Dr Abdul-Kauf Kasseb, the Prime Minister. Nearly half the ministers are young technocrats chosen to introduce long-promised internal reforms.

The key Foreign, Defence and Information portfolios remain unchanged, a clear sign that Syria is to continue its policy of sharp opposition to American-sponsored moves for a Middle East settlement.

Most appointments reflect a strong emphasis on domestic affairs after a campaign in the state-run press against corruption and inefficiency in the economy.

Diplomats here said that the appointment of Major-General Nasir al-Din Nasir as Minister of the Interior was likely to foreshadow new efforts to stop a wave of assassinations and violence which have left about 120 people dead since June.

In September, Syria's political leaders promised to stamp out corruption and overhaul the state machinery. The Cabinet reshuffle was preceded by a two-week national congress of the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party which condemned 18 of the old ministers. The Congress re-elected President Assad as secretary-general of the party, a post he has held since coming to power in a bloodless coup almost 10 years ago.

Diplomats here said that the

new Syrian Government comprises the following:

President: Abdul al-Karim Ad

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister: Dr Abdul-Kauf Kasseb

Deputy Premier in charge of Public Debt: Dr Abdul-Kader Kudrati

Information: Ahmad Ismail Ahmad al-Din Nasir

Ministry of Interior: Muhammad

Deeb

Local Administration: Ahmad Dabbagh

President's Office: Abdul al-Karim Ad

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister: Dr Abdul-Kauf Kasseb

Deputy Premier in charge of Public

Debt: Dr Abdul-Kader Kudrati

Information: Ahmad Ismail Ahmad al-Din Nasir

Ministry of Planning: Salim Yassin

Ministry of Agriculture: Muhammad

Deeb

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs: Yusif

Ministry of Planning: Salim Yassin

Ministry of Minerals and Metal Resources: Abd

Ministry: Hisham Kadi

Ministry: Nizaras Dah

Ministry: Khalid Jumblatt

Ministry: Dr. Naseem

## SPORT

## Football

## Greenwood's men spared the worst

By Norman Fox  
Football Correspondent

Having qualified for their first important international competition in 10 years, England naturally hoped to begin next summer's European Championship in Italy against one of the powerhouses of the nations. In the respect they were favoured by yesterday's draw which aligned them with Belgium in the first match on June 12 in Turin, but it also placed them in the group of the nadir hosts.

There being no easy passage of two groups of four countries will play in Rome on June 22, England were, prepared for the worst, which some would have considered to be group B, which included West Germany and the Netherlands. They have been spared that and join Italy, Spain and Belgium in the second group. The other group comprises West Germany, the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia and Greece.

There is something to be said for meeting the Italians in the group rather than in the final, but that is to look further ahead than is prudent when considering England's failures of the last decade. If England are to have a view of that, manager Ron Greenwood, who believes them to be "at least the fourth best team in Europe" they will need to begin strongly against Belgium, and then well against the next World Cup hosts, Spain, in Naples on June 18.

The match with Italy comes in the middle of the programme on June 15 in Turin. As the Italians finish their group programme with a 2-0 victory over the effects of Belgium in Rome, the meeting with England will almost certainly decide who goes into the final. Although England will play with the dark memory of having been beaten in the first competition place by the Italians, they now have the advantage of being much more widely respected, not least by the Italians who lost

2-0 at Wembley in November, 1977.

Italy themselves may have mixed feelings about playing two matches in the north of their country, at Milan and Turin, for although that was their choice, they are aware of the critical nature of demands following a poor showing against Spain in Milan on June 12 could rouse a hostile reaction and work in favour of England three days later. The Italian team have already been criticised for the style of their play, it is friendly indeed. Unlike England, they have not been subjected to the sharpening of qualifying games.

Mr Greenwood's first reaction was that England's form suggests that Belgium should do more than make up the numbers, and Spain qualified from a group containing Yugoslavia and Romania.

The championship will begin with a fascinating rematch of the 1976 final when Czechoslovakia beat West Germany on penalties. They meet again in Rome on June 11. The Czechs may not be as good as they were but still have sound, experienced players. The Germans are always technically outstanding.

However, England are fortunate to have a rehearsal for one of their group games in the form of play in Spain on March 26. The original plan was to test the water for the 1982 World Cup, but the game now has more urgent importance.

It may offend Scots to hear of England being considered the weakest members of England's group, for only last month they lost 3-1 to the Belgians in Brussels. The Italian form suggests that Belgium should do more than

make up the numbers, and Spain

will be £2 instead of £1.50. The most obvious increase in cost will be in the car parks, which are controlled by a separate company. Parking will cost £5 instead of £4.75.

Court two will have 381 more seats. The accommodation will be extended to ground level where there will no longer be steps. The new Centre Court, which there will be no milling throng between the crowd and the players and no longer a threat that the public will encroach on the court. To reduce queues inside the press, there will be four court two will be sold at the back of the Centre Court, where a temporary stand will seat some 740 people.

Everyone should have more room because, in spite of expanded facilities, the new Centre Court will be filled when 31,000 spectators have been admitted, Air Chief Marshall Sir Brian Burnett, chairman of the championships committee, said yesterday that "Wimbledon is Mother Earth and you can expect Alan's team to go out there. So will a lot of others."

"We hope more than 400 people will be going to the new Centre Court because we are well forward in our training schedule, so I will quieten him down for a couple of weeks and then get down to the tough stuff. We are very excited about the fight."

Alan Minter, the World Boxing Council heavyweight champion, said that the European title holder, Lorenzo Zanon, whom he meets on February 3 with the title at stake, was "a worthy opponent."

Zanon's strength was given in Dymoke, Berlin, and in the Cup Winners' Cup Arsenal will face

Grenoble. The draw for the three European club competitions also took place yesterday and gave Notts Forest and Arsenal room for optimism but less hope for Celtic who have to play Real Madrid in the European Cup. For the European Cup holders, are drawn with the East German champions, Dymoke Berlin, and in the Cup Winners' Cup Arsenal will face

Grenoble. For most the draw could have more difficult opposition in Hamburg, who play Hajduk Split, or Yugoslavia, Real Madrid, or Ajax. Some indication of Dymoke's strength was given in Dymoke's draw with the Swedes and difficulty in overcoming the Swedes were more than warm-ups, said:

"Zanon's the European champion. If he beats Zanon, Holmes will meet Leroy Jones, of the United States, in late March, and if he wins that one will face the World Boxing Association title holder,

John Tate, in September.

**Cup Winners' Cup**

Quarter-final round

England v Scotland, Hungary v East Germany.

**European Cup**

Quarter-final round

Hamburg SV v Hajduk Split, Notts Forest v Dymoke.

**European Cup**

Quarter-final round

West Germany v Spain, France v Yugoslavia, Dymoke v Juventus.

**Uefa Cup**

Quarter-final round

St Etienne v Borussia Mönchengladbach, Kaiserslautern v Bayern Munich, Stuttgart v Lokomotiv Sofia, Eintracht Frankfurt v Zbrojovka Brno.

**Under-21 championship**

Quarter-final round

Czechoslovakia v Yugoslavia.

## Campbell faces the jeers of the crowd

The Fulham manager, Bobby Campbell, once thought likely to succeed Danny Blanchflower at neighbouring Chelsea, now finds himself in the same position of jeopardy. After Fulham joined the procession of London clubs sliding out of the FA Cup to teams from lower divisions, beaten 1-0 by Blackham, many of Fulham's second round FA Cup crowd of just 5,000 stayed away to watch what became "Campbell out."

Mr Campbell said: "I have got to try and find young players and educate them. Fulham cannot afford to splash money about."

With the prospect of consecutive success can be any insurance, Alliance Premier League club Northwich Victoria have partied company with their manager, Ray Williams, despite a run in the FA Cup which ended when they were beaten by Wigan Athletic from the fourth division.

The Charlton manager, Mike Bailey, is considering his future after being told to hand over team selection to the former manager, Alan Nelson. Mr Bailey has been told to concentrate on coaching.

## Tuesday's results

**FA TROPHY:** First round, replay: Notts Forest 2 v. W. Metrop. Police 0. Postponed: Altrincham v. Grantham; Nuneaton v. Hyde.

**Anglo Scottish Cup:** Semi-final round, second leg: Morton (0) 0 v. Bristol City (0) 1. Bristol won 3-2 on aggregate.

**Welsh Cup fourth round:** Newport v. Cardiff, postponed.

**Millwall are forced to sell winger for £250,000**

Kevin O'Gallagher, a winger, moved from Millwall to Ipswich Town yesterday for £250,000. The 20-year-old, the 18-year-old Republic of Ireland international, underwent a medical examination.

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Leonard Eppel, the club chairman, said: "There comes a time for every club to sell the best in the market either as a seller or buyer. We are currently running Millwall as a second division club with third division gates."

"All our supporters must understand that we live in a real world and we must meet our obligations. We hope to strengthen the team as soon as possible in order to assist in the final run in the season when we hope to gain promotion."

Raphael Villaseca, a Uruguayan international, is in two days of talks and training with Wolverhampton Wanderers. A versatile defender, Villaseca, aged 24, plays for Huelva, a Spanish second division side, who are reported to want £100,000 for him.

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Ronald Butt

# The strange case of Labour's protected infiltrators

With the moderates appearing to have increasingly little to say that carries conviction there is a vacuum in the centre of Labour thinking

It is not difficult to understand why Fleet Street has been fascinated by the story of the attempt by the "Militant tendency" to take over as much as it can of the Labour Party. It is a tale with a concrete plot that is easily grasped and presented. It is an action story, and above all it has documents which can be discovered and revealed, and whose attempted suppression is itself news.

Yet in essence it is not a new story. Far from it. Sir Harold Wilson, when he was Prime Minister, warned the Labour conference in 1975 of extremist infiltration of the constituency organizations and at successive annual Labour conferences since then, the infiltration of the "Trots" has been a cause for concern.

There has also been a series of attempts to oust moderate MPs in which the Militant tendency has been heavily involved. This year a climax was reached when the extremists secured their conference victory for the compulsory reselection of Labour MPs, as well as for giving authority over the Labour manifesto to the left-wing National Executive Committee, instead of the parliamentary leadership.

The emergence of material from the report on Militant infiltration has usefully put flesh on the bones of an old story, thanks to the request of Mr Neville Sanderson, himself a beleaguered Labour moderate MP, that they should be published, and similar insistence by Lord Underhill, who was Labour's National Agent at the time, and who is familiar with the suppressed evidence. The NEC having refused, Lord Underhill has been going it alone.

Yet the danger is that the focus of press attention on the Militant tendency will distract attention from the real questions: why and how have the Trotskyist infiltrators been protected for so long by the NEC? The short answer is, of course, that the NEC itself is now in the hands of a left-wing majority (though not at all of a Trotskyist variety) as a result of the left's success in recent years in taking control of a number of important unions and of constituency parties, and thus dominating

the party conference which elects the NEC.

In this way, a situation has been created in sharp contrast to that of the 1950s, when a moderate NEC and moderate unions were the bulwark of a moderate parliamentary party.

This answer, however, does not explain what has been done here. There are no documents to be revealed and "facts" are hard to come by. There is only a mass of circumstantial evidence provided by the actions and statements by individuals.

Those who operate according to a concrete strategy are the least likely to risk their thoughts on paper; others, including those who are most useful to the clear-sighted because they are bridge-builders, probably have no completely thought-out place of destination.

What they do have is a response to a prevailing climate in the party and a general sense of direction. Some take it because they think it will lead them towards political power in the future; others because they are responding for one reason or another to the same principle as that which animated their predecessors in the 1930s—the conviction (to borrow the words of Mr A. J. P. Taylor in his account of the Labour Party in this period) that there are "no enemies on the left".

This is the dominant conviction on the NEC today. There are some who are for all practical purposes communists, which is not the same thing as saying that they belong to any party of that name; others are Marxist in broad sentiment, and while they profess to believe that the government of the Soviet Union is a deformation of the party's creed, they would recoil with dismay if asked to agree that the replacement of that system would be beneficial to those who have to live under Russian communism.

In the House of Commons this week, despite Afghanistan, we had Mr Frank Allaun (a member of the NEC) telling the Prime Minister that we should take a softer line towards Russia over defence. No enemies on the left, indeed!

The success of the left arises in part from the failure since 1964 of the kind of social democracy attempted by Sir Harold Wilson and Mr Callaghan to deliver reasonable prosperity, or to control the mixed economy, culminating in the collapse of the attempt to protect the militant tendency in its clever device of avoiding infringement of party rules against separate organizations



Lord Underhill going it alone

With the Labour moderates appearing to have increasingly little to say that carries conviction, there is a vacuum in the centre of Labour thinking, just as there was in the 1950s after Ramsay MacDonald, finding that he could not manage the government on Labour lines, joined the National Government, taking countless Labour voters, though very few party members, with him.

What followed was the period of the Popular Front mentality of the intellectual ideas of Laski and Strachey (both virtually communists). From this Labour was only rescued when the war gave the moderate leaders a share of responsibility and office, which won them their 1945 landslide.

We are now back with the "popular front" or united left mentality again, and it is this and the use made by the clearer-sighted hard-line Marxists of the Militant tendency that should concern us more than the details of the militants' plotting.

What matters is the alliance of the old hard-line left (who used to be called fellow-travellers) with clever bridge-builders like Mr Eric Heffer, and with Mr Wedeweld Benn (who though not a Marxist himself, sprang to defend the appointment of the Trotskyist Mr Andy Bevan as Labour's National Youth Officer). (His argument was that Marxism was part of Labour's intellectual heritage—as though there were no disjunction between a transmuted intellectual heritage of this sort and calculated infiltration by undiluted Marxists.)

All these have sought to protect the militant tendency in its clever device of avoiding infringement of party rules against separate organizations

by basing its own arrangements on the readership and circulation structure of its newspaper. Why has there been no reaction to the Militants' control of Labour's Young Socialists? Why is information about Militant activities suppressed?

It is not that the Militant tendency on its own could achieve much. It is questionable whether the Trots could oust any Labour MPs on their own: they are certainly not strong enough to substitute their own replacements for the ousted. The "Trots" remain relatively divided into factions, as they have been since the end of the war, between those who opt for infiltration ("entryism"), those who prefer extra-parliamentary and on-the-street activities, and those who think in terms of their own candidates and organization. The "Trots" do not really understand power, but they are useful to those who do.

They can, for instance, recruit young people to their cause while the more disciplined hard-left cannot, and they can smuggle the recruits on disruptive action that the traditional left can then exploit. They can act as a kind of commando outfit when an attack is to be launched on a moderate Labour MP. Not least, they can distract attention from the old hard-left which secured the united left dominance of the party in the years before 1970, when the parliamentary leadership was too busy with office to notice.

Distracting attention is, indeed, what the revelations about the "Trots" are doing now. The Militants are taking the podium, but what about the old hard-left which remains unchallenged and its atavistic sympathies unprobed? In a way, one can understand why the hard-left escapes so easily. They do not, after all, have to wage war to get control of the Labour Party.

By their manipulation of a variety of elements at a time of deep national and party disillusion, they are on the brink of controlling it already, and their dominance remains effectively unchallenged. What, in these circumstances, are the moderates to do? I shall discuss some of their options next week.

# The collapse of America's 'generation of peace'

Patrick Brogan  
on the  
failure of  
a decade  
of American  
foreign policy

In a television interview broadcast on New Year's eve, President Carter said that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan "has made a more dramatic change in my opinion of what the Soviets' ultimate goals are, than anything they've done in the previous time that I've been in office". The President was clearly outraged, much as Mr Neville Chamberlain was outraged in September, 1939, when he announced on the radio that he had discovered that Herr Hitler was not a reasonable statesman after all.

The comparison is unkind, but necessary. The one redeeming consequence of the Iranian and Afghan catastrophes is that they may, at last, have woken up the President and public opinion to the complete failure of a decade's foreign policy.

In the early seventies, President Nixon and Dr Kissinger promised us "a generation of peace". They believed that their negotiations with the Soviet Union, combined with a staunch defence of America's interests across the globe, would end the cold war once and for all. They were the architects of detente.

They were less easily gulled by Soviet promises, and took Soviet actions more seriously, than Senator McGovern or, later, Mr Andrew Young and Mr Cyrus Vance. President Ford and Dr Kissinger wanted to try to stop the Soviet annexation of Angola and were thwarted by Congress. They went through the motions of trying to save South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos in 1975, but acquiesced in Congress's refusal to help.

The Americans were not the only ones who reversed the old aphorism, and watched what the Russians said, not what they did. In the 1960s, after all, Britain had a minister to dismantle the B-1 bomber.

The time has now come, in Washington's view, for the European allies and Japan to realize that their vital interests are involved in the Middle East crisis—and because of the Shah's days were thus decided whether to support him to the limit or to ditch him, finding some tough-minded general to replace him.

that protestations of America's defence capability were second to none were enough to ensure continued parity with the Soviet Union. Mr Nixon abolished the draft.

Then came Mr Jimmy Carter. His diplomacy over three years had been a history of disasters, with the one, glowing exception of the Camp David treaty. On that occasion President Sadat, rightly foreseeing the coming storm and recognizing that his only hope was an American alliance, settled his quarrel with Israel. Mr Carter persuaded Israel to agree.

Shortly after taking office, Mr Carter thought that the Russians might be willing to reduce their armaments substantially if he asked nicely, he did, and they weren't. They invited them to take part in settling the Middle East problems. They were delighted at the idea, which was vetoed by Egyptians and Israelis alike. They engineered a communist coup in Aden and Afghanistan in 1977.

President Carter decided that human rights were the most important thing for American foreign policy, and therefore set about attending a number of minor dictatorships, while praising important ones. He praised the Shah of Iran effusively (for which the Iranians have not forgiven him). But the following summer, 1978, when it became apparent that the Shah's days were numbered, could he not decide whether to support him to the limit or to ditch him, finding some tough-minded general to replace him.

Iran is the greatest defeat for American policy since the fall of Saigon in 1975

As a result, of course, the Shah was overthrown and replaced by the implacable Ayatollah. Mr Carter tried to ingratiate himself with the new regime by selling refined oil products and food, and by expressing willingness to pursue relations at any level the Ayatollah wanted.

The revolution in Iran is clearly the greatest defeat for American foreign policy since the fall of Saigon in 1975. Indeed, its consequences may be much more serious. It may take a war to save the Middle East from communism, which is a prospect grim enough to daunt anyone. We will see soon enough whether President Carter will face that prospect and whether the American people will follow him.

What was to be a "generation of peace" at the beginning of the decade had narrowed down to Saigon by the end of it. The argument in Saigon's favour is that, if it is kept, it will put a limit on nuclear spending and preserve some sort of parity between the two superpowers. If it fails, then Russia might soon have a clear superiority over America in strategic as well as conventional weapons.

The argument against it is that it endangers American inferiority and that a nation that behaves as Russia has done across the world in the past few years cannot be trusted in a matter so important as strategic arms. Mr Carter has abandoned Saigon. The last surviving fragment of the detente.

The crisis in the Middle East is just beginning, and Mr Carter will lay out a "Carter doctrine" to deal with it. "Thus far and no further" he will say and then propose concrete measures to make the war winning credible. Meanwhile, President Tito is dying in Ljubljana, and the firmness of America's reaction to the invasion of Afghanistan will certainly be taken into account by the Russians as they look at the Balkans.

In 1976, Mr Carter said "I don't believe that our security would be directly threatened if the Soviet Union went into Yugoslavia".

I have long been of the opinion, and as long proclaimed my belief, that the Soviet people are not fools. Millions of them know that they are unfree; that they are poor; that their rulers live well out of their suffering; many even know that there is a world elsewhere. Very few of them are brave enough to do or even say anything about this knowledge, by which I intend no criticism of their silence, for only a hero may call on another man to be heroic. But if their leaders had to admit that the Olympic Games, of which the Soviet people have been hearing day in and day out for four full years, were being cancelled, I do not believe that any amount of telling of any number of lies would serve to stop millions of the Soviet people—tens of millions this time—from taking the first silent, doleful step, inside their hearts and minds, towards the full knowledge of the nature of the system they live and suffer under. I believe that for many it would be the last invisible step, and that for these the next one would be in the open. But that is not necessary; if a nation has begun to revolt in its heart then the thing against which the heart has turned is as a house built upon sand.

If that is so, then the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan could be the most disastrous step our enemies have taken for decades. But only, as I said yesterday, if the West unites, remains united, and acts. The unity should be taken; now let us vow that this crowning action shall be taken, too, in full unity of purpose and full knowledge of what it could mean. © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1980

Bernard Levin

## A gold for walking out of the Games

The response from both Nato and the EEC to the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan makes me almost despair of freedom itself. Of course, no serious observer of the international scene would expect the French to behave in any way other than the most dishonourable that the situation permits, but the speech of M François-Poncet, in which he argues that as America did not normally supply butter to the Soviet Union the EEC would not be undermining the American position by keeping up its own sales of surplus butter, went even further than expectation. But the rest of the EEC, with the exception of Britain, behaved little better. It is clear that the discussion was largely based on the premise that the invasion was nothing to do with Europe, and that if the United States wanted to do something about it, Europe had no higher duty than to refrain from actively hindering her efforts.

Elsewhere in Brussels, the Nato ministers likewise confined themselves to the view that some appropriate words would be a sufficient response to the aggression, and that to accompany the words by any kind of deeds would be inopportune. Much credit goes to Britain's representatives at the two meetings—Mr Douglas Hurd at the EEC and Sir Ian Gilmour at Nato—for their forthright and strenuous efforts to achieve unity and action, as indeed it goes to Mrs Thatcher and Lord Carrington for the speed and strength of their reaction to the invasion, and the persistence with which they are fighting to persuade the more recalcitrant, visionless and treacherous of our allies that it is our crisis just as much as America's and possibly more so.

The cancellation of the Olympics, however, is another matter. By now it is safe to say, every inhabitant of every part of the Soviet Union, apart from infants too young to understand, knows that the Olympiad is to take place in their country, that athletes from virtually every country in the world will be taking part, and that Soviet competitors have a very good chance of carrying off many of the medals. It would be quite impossible for the Soviet leaders to conceal from their people the fact that the Olympics had been cancelled, and if the countries of Nato and the EEC pulled out, together with say, Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, Spain, Austria and a few of the nations of Latin America and the Middle East, the Soviet Union would be virtually

persecution of dissidents and of those who wish to emigrate, the cruelty, the imperialist oppression beyond the Soviet borders, the censorship of every published word—all these were known in the greatest possible detail, and so, for that matter, was the officially encouraged anti-semitism, in case it is necessary to make the parallel even closer.

And it has just been announced in Moscow that no western newspaper or magazine will be allowed into the Soviet Union during the first place.

Indeed, if the International Olympic Committee bothered to apply its own rules, the Soviet Union could not have been chosen for the games, as Soviet Olympic athletes are, almost if not entirely without exception, professionals. (But the International Olympic Committee doesn't seem very interested in the rules; Mr Trudeau broke them by excluding the Taiwan team from the Montreal Games, and was allowed to get away with it.)

It is not, however, necessary to rely on the breach of such rules to make a case for refusing the games to the Soviet Union. The situation is exactly parallel to that of the Berlin Olympics of 1936, which should have been sufficient warning for the world: the only instance in the world's history of a tyranny that compared in evil to the Soviet one was then allowed to stage a festival devoted to innocence, peace, individual achievement and friendly rivalry, and to turn it into a huge propaganda advertisement on behalf of Nazism. As a matter of fact, on that occasion there was an excuse: the games were awarded to Berlin in the early summer of 1932, before Hitler had even come into power, let alone before the full horrors of Nazism were apparent. But when the 1980 Olympics were given to Moscow, the full horror of Soviet Communism had been known, in the uttermost depths of its evil, for much more than a human generation; the concentration-camps, and even less surprising that the International Olympic Committee took no action even then.

Now, ironically enough in the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, they have no fresh ground for taking action, because the invasion by the Soviet Union is of one of its neighbours, is not something prohibited by the rules of the games. If the games are to be called off, as a means of showing the world's displeasure at the invasion, and of demonstrating that such aggression must be tangible, and not just rebuked, it must be by the action of individual competing nations and of individual athletes.

The Olympic nations of the world

have varying arrangements for organizing their athletes' participation. In Britain the government has no power to forbid British athletes to take part (short of such unthinkable action as confiscating their passports), but the British Olympic Committee, if its members were so minded and it were part of an international joint action, could and should call off British participation. As present they are still intoning their idiotic mantra "Politischmustauskeits-sport" like a witch-doctor casting spells, but it is not entirely impossible that they might acquire a backbone or two in the coming months and join in a general move.

Of course, leadership will have to come from the United States, but at the moment leadership is coming from the United States. Though the games are still a good many months off, time is not on our side; the nearer we get to the Olympics, the greater will be the pressure to let go on, and the weaker will be the sense of outrage at the Soviet invasion. So we must hurry if it is to be done. It should be done; it can be done; now, what good would it do if it were done?

First, of course, it would deprive the Soviet Union of a great deal of prestige, it would deprive the Soviet Union of millions this time—from taking the first silent, doleful step, inside their hearts and minds, towards the full knowledge of the nature of the system they live and suffer under. I believe that for many it would be the last invisible step, and that for these the next one would be in the open. But that is not necessary; if a nation has begun to revolt in its heart then the thing against which the heart has turned is as a house built upon sand.

If that is so, then the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan could be the most disastrous step our enemies have taken for decades. But only, as I said yesterday, if the West unites, remains united, and acts.

The unity should be taken; now let us vow that this crowning action shall be taken, too, in full unity of purpose and full knowledge of what it could mean.

ARTS DIARY

Mr West tries his hand at management

The actor-manager has become an almost extinct creature in these days of theatre companies run by directors, but the idea of combining performances with the artistic direction of the Old Vic does not worry him.

He thought performers were getting tired of "the hired actor syndrome" and wanted a bit more say in the world in which they worked. He also wanted to direct more himself but had found it difficult on a freelance basis. "After three years of thinking I'm in the position of director, I have only done one luncheon play and a couple of recitals."

So he is deserting television and bending his energies to the difficult task of succeeding Toby Robertson at the Old Vic. Some plans have already been dropped: there will now not be any Old Vic productions until the end of the summer,

partly due to finance and partly to ensure that the relaunch of the company does not go off "at half steam".

The eventual programme will involve street companies, possibly in London, on tour in Britain and London on a big series of foreign tours. Among the plays will be *Macbeth*, with Peter O'Toole, and a production of *Trelawny of the Wells*, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Old Vic in its present form.

In the meantime Mr West has started rehearsals for what is virtually a one man show, *Beecham*, which opens at the Apollo on January 29. Although physically unlike the conductor, he is already beginning to look the part, and the square jaw of the television Churchill will be disappearing behind a Beecham goatee.

While special clearance would still be needed for theatrical showings, most of the plays can be seen by researchers and other interested individuals.

If the meeting makes any recommendation for a change of rule or policy, he said this would go to a regular branch meeting and could then go on national level for consideration.

### Musicians and the blacking rule

Members of the Musicians' Union who are unhappy about the policy which prevents non-union conductors from also playing with chamber orchestras, will have a chance to air their views at a special meeting next month.

Christopher Hogwood and

George Malcolm are among the non-union members who have regularly directed chamber orchestras from the keyboard but are now being blacked from playing alongside union members.

&lt;p



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## THE IDEA OF A CENTRE PARTY

The British accept the arguments for a centre party but they are not yet ready actually to have one. That would seem to be the conclusion that should be drawn from the survey done by ORC for *The Times*. We commissioned the survey following Mr Roy Jenkins's Dimbleby lecture, to examine the support for some of the propositions which were advanced or implied in his speech. The main arguments which he employed are accepted by substantial or very large majorities in the poll.

Although a small majority of Conservatives still believe that our present political system is working properly, both Labour and Liberal supporters believe that it is no longer working properly, by majorities of two to one. The overall majority for the view that the Labour Party is moving too far to the left is almost three to one, and almost half of Labour supporters themselves take that view. A smaller majority consider that the Conservative Party is moving too far to the right; that includes twenty-one per cent of Conservative supporters. Seventy-five per cent of those questioned agree with the proposition that the trade unions have too much power over the Labour Party and only seventeen per cent disagree. Seventy-two per cent would like a proportional reform of the electoral system and only thirteen per cent are opposed. There is indeed a substantial majority for electoral reform among supporters of all three parties.

These figures show conclusively that the arguments which Mr Jenkins used are regarded as valid by large majorities of the British people. When it comes to putting these arguments to any political effect attitudes are sympathetic but much less clear. Less than a third are opposed to the idea of the formation of a centre party as such. Forty-two per cent of the electorate say that they would support the Liberals at a General Election if they thought they had a reasonable chance of winning. This is a statistic found before in opinion polling but the effect of a coalition of the centre would be to strengthen the belief that the Liberals could win. The Liberals have a problem not of sympathy but of credibility.

## A POLITICAL FIXTURE TO BE SCRATCHED

Athletes who have spent years training for the Moscow Olympics, and athletic bureaucrats who have spent years preparing the arrangements for them, are understandably irritated when, a mere seven months before they are due to start, there is talk of cancelling or boycotting them.

They feel that, once again, politics is trying to interfere with the games.

If this year's Olympics go ahead in Moscow as normal, the Soviet Union will similarly have got away with the seizure of Afghanistan, as it got away with its interventions in Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968.

The peoples of the Soviet Union

will be left with the impression

that all is well; that their

country is not merely powerful

but generally respected and

enjoys the friendship of the

entire world; which of course is

exactly the impression that their

rulers in the Kremlin want them

to have.

The decision to hold the

Games in Moscow was taken in

1974, when detente was in its

heyday. At that time we said it

was "on balance good" that

Moscow had been chosen, hoping

it would promote free and

genuine contact between the

Russians and other peoples. By

1978 it was clear that, in spite of

the Helsinki Final Act, human

rights were not blossoming in

the Soviet Union. If anything

they were being more harshly

suppressed. We warned then that

western public support for an

"open door" policy would

rapidly die away, if political

repression in the Soviet Union

continued to intensify, and that

the Olympics could then be in

danger. Since then political

repression has certainly not

lessened, and it has for some time

been obvious that the Moscow

Olympics were going to be an

embarrassing event for free men

and women to take part in. But

until December 26 it was at least

arguable that to withdraw would

be more embarrassing and more

## Assisted places scheme

From the Headmaster of Bolton School

Sir, Mr Merlyn Rees (January 7) in supporting the Rector of Charlton's description of the assisted places scheme as "immoral" says that he does not believe that independent schools could, or should, be forbidden by law. He seems, therefore, prepared to accept a system in which inability to pay fees is an automatic bar to entry to many of the best schools in the country. Such a bar would seem to many which nearer to "immorality" than a scheme which enables the less well off to benefit from what these schools have to offer.

As for Mr Rees's implication that these schools are "irrelevant", he seems to be forgetting that much of the work in Nutfield science and modern mathematics was pioneered in them; that they have made a considerable contribution to improving the teaching of foreign languages; and that as the independent schools' information Service statistics show they are at least holding their own with the maintained schools in providing entrants to engineering and science.

A point lost sight of in recent correspondence is that the assisted places scheme does not compel any

threat of a split in the Labour Party could be eliminated. If the Labour Party continue to move to the left, they will be stretching the elastic near to or beyond its breaking point.

For the Conservative Party there is no substitute for success in government. If the Conservative Government are even reasonably successful in reducing inflation and in their general handling of the economy, Mrs Thatcher will win and will deserve to win the next General Election. From the national point of view that is highly desirable.

The public view that the Conservative Party is too far to the right is still much weaker than the view that the Labour Party is too far to the left, yet economic failure would undoubtedly turn voters away from the Conservatives. If the Labour Party go further left, and Conservative economic policy fails, a centre alternative becomes a necessity, and also becomes possible. But neither of those two conditions yet exists.

There are however two points which have emerged from this poll to which all politicians ought to give serious and urgent consideration. They are two points on which public opinion shows over seventy per cent agreement. One is the issue of proportional representation, supported by a majority of more than five to one; the other is the issue of trade union power—in this case trade union power over the Labour Party—where the majority which regard it as excessive is over four to one.

Electoral reform and trade union reform are the great issues on which the public is right and both the big parties are wrong. What is more they stand together. Effective trade union reform requires a permanent majority to support it. Under a reformed electoral system a permanent majority for a fair trade union law would inevitably come into existence. There would then be no point in the trade unions trying to reject the law, because they would have no reason to expect that they would be able to find a parliamentary majority to repeal it. These two major reforms are essential. If a centre party were to come into existence it would be of no value unless it were fully committed to both of them.

The question of deaths in custody first arose some two years ago, perhaps because of the Liddle Towers case. The then Home Secretary reported in a parliamentary question setting out the known figures. Nothing more has been heard until Mr Michael Meacher, MP, raised the issue again towards the end of 1979. At the time, Mr Meacher was conducting a campaign in support of his proposal that independent observers should be appointed to make unannounced inspections of police stations to ensure that prisoners were being properly treated.

I do not know of any police officer who would dissent from the view that even one death caused by unnecessary use of violence by the police would be a matter for concern. My objection is to the use of the total figure of deaths in custody over the last 10 years to suggest that these indicate the possibility, if not the probability, of widespread maltreatment of prisoners.

The care and custody of police prisoners in every force is conducted under standing instructions which are more specific, and demand more

meticulous obedience, than anything else which takes place inside a police station. A very great personal responsibility rests upon all officers who, for the time being, are in charge of police cells. Every force requires prisoners to be visited at frequent intervals. There are instructions to be followed in the case of any prisoner who, on being taken into custody, shows signs of injury or illness. The drunkard prisoner poses special problems and requires additional supervision.

On a point of simple fact, I have not made any public comment on the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr James Kelly. I have criticised people who have jumped to conclusions before the police inquiry was completed, before the Director of Public Prosecutions made his decision, and before the inquest had heard the evidence. My speech at Liverpool, to which you referred, was in response to a vociferous campaign which alleged that police brutality was widespread among the members of the Merseyside Police.

As to the specific question of deaths in police custody, may I set out the position as we see it?

In 1978, there were 562,100 cases of persons being arrested by the police, of whom 24 died either in custody or after removal to hospital. I estimate that over the past 10 years something like four million persons have been in police custody, of whom 24 have died, two cases of Mr James Kelly, there has been considerable public concern and serious allegations have been made.

Now that the names of all persons to have died in custody are to be published, to which I have no objection, is the next stage to be a mammoth fishing expedition, with all kinds of innuendo directed towards the officers who were unfortunate enough to have figured in their arrest and subsequent detention? What happens, in such a case, to the presumption of innocence, or are police officers not to enjoy the same civil liberties as other members of the community?

I do not accept that the police are deaf to all criticism, nor do I believe that all critics of the police are malicious in intent. What I do expect is that people in responsible positions in public life, and the writers of editorials in newspapers, will at least examine the hard evidence before lending their support to a particular campaign of this kind. We seem at no ready these days to jump to the conclusion that the greater the clamour, the more real the grievance.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES JARDINE,  
Chairman,  
Joint Central Committee,  
Police Federation of England and  
Wales,  
15-17 Langley Road,  
Surbiton,  
Surrey.

## Dying in police custody

From the Chairman of the Joint Central Committee of the Police Federation of England and Wales

Sir, I am prepared to accept a modest rebuke from *The Times* (Leader, January 14) if it is justified by the facts. When, however, the criticism of myself and other police officers who have chosen to speak up on behalf of the service is based on misrepresentation of the views expressed, some response is called for.

On a point of simple fact, I have not made any public comment on the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr James Kelly. I have criticised people who have jumped to conclusions before the police inquiry was completed, before the Director of Public Prosecutions made his decision, and before the inquest had heard the evidence. My speech at Liverpool, to which you referred, was in response to a vociferous campaign which alleged that police brutality was widespread among the members of the Merseyside Police.

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Detroit's  
car makers;  
page 19

Where have  
all the  
craftsmen  
gone? page 17

# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

■ Stock markets
FT Ind 455.5 up 13.8
FT Gilt 58.52 up 0.47
■ Sterling
52.2675 down 97 points
Index 71.7 down 0.3
■ Dollar
Index 84.6, up 0.3
■ Gold
\$755 an ounce up \$67.5
■ 3-month money
Inter-bank 16.1% to 16.1%
Euro 3 14% to 14%

### IN BRIEF

### Shell puts 4p on petrol price at pump

Shell has announced a 4p increase in the price of its petrol without having agreed with the British National Oil Corporation on the cost of North Sea oil, which makes up half of its United Kingdom crude requirements.

The 4p rise, which was imposed 5p to the average Shell pump price, making the charge for four star 122p, some 2p or 3p, greater than the average price of BP petrol, which was raised by a similar amount earlier this week.

#### Property transfer

English Property Corporation, now controlled by the Canadian group, Olympia & York Developments led by the Reichman family, has transferred to a wholly-owned subsidiary of its parent EPC's offshoot Star Great Britain Overseas Holdings. Holdings has half of Trizex, a Canadian real estate company, and nearly a quarter of Landmark Land, a United States property company. EPC receives £54m.

#### TV revenue down

Commercial television revenue in December was £50.3m, reflecting the continued pressure from advertisers following the blackout of screens earlier in the year. It was a slight reduction on the November revenue of £52m.

#### Builders more hopeful

Confidence among private house-builders in future demand is growing, according to a survey carried out by the Department of the Environment. In November builders expected to start work again on 1980 private homes earlier in 1980. Six months earlier, they were expecting 140,000 start.

#### 600 laid off

Loss of 600 jobs at Borg-Warner, the automatic transmission manufacturers, has been blamed on the drop in the number of cars being built in Britain. The company, whose gearboxes are fitted to BL's big cars, said also that car manufacturers were holding huge stocks of transmissions unused during the engineering strike last summer.

#### 3-year expansion plan

Crown Paints is to spend \$1m on modernization of its factory at Darwen, Lancashire. Mr Peter Burns, the managing director, said yesterday, that the three-year plan, which will increase paint output by 28 per cent, involves the merging of the present three separate production departments into a single unit.

#### MG bid today

BL executives are expected to receive today a formal offer from the consortium, led by Aston Martin Lagonda, to buy the MG sports car factory at Abingdon in Oxfordshire.

#### Penguin redundancies

Penguin Books, which lost 5,478,000 in the first six months of last year, is to make about 50 employees redundant and cut its publishing programme by 22 per cent.

#### Wall Street down 3.41

The New York Stock Exchange saw profit taking on a large turnover of 67 million shares. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 3.41 to 865.19.

### PRICE CHANGES

#### Rises

Barlow Rand 28p to 30p  
Castledine 33p to 41p  
First Nat Fin 34p to 164p  
Leslie 38p to 378p  
Lydenburg 35p to 195p

Metals Explorer 3p to 55p  
Motivex 49p to 24p  
MTD (Mangala) 17p to 118p  
Pretoria F. Cem 40p to 300p  
Sentrust 40c to 700c

Marshall T. Lox 2p to 34p  
Metivex 3p to 28p  
Nugate Explorer 30p to 580p  
Vesper 17p to 150p  
Western Areas 5c to 90c

### THE POUND

Bank buys Bank sells  
Australia 5 2.11 2.04  
Australia Sch 29.90 27.99  
Belgium Fr 66.25 64.75  
Canada 5 2.71 2.64  
Denmark Kr 12.75 12.20  
Finland Mark 8.74 8.54  
France Fr 9.54 9.14  
Germany Dm 4.12 3.90  
Greece Dr 101.00 96.00  
Hongkong \$ 11.50 10.90  
Italy Lira 196.00 182.50  
Japan Yen 560.00 543.00  
Netherlands Gld 4.53 4.30

Notes for small denominations bank buys only from international firms.  
Barley rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

### Three-year profit targets force huge increases in gas and electricity prices

By Nicholas Hirst  
Energy Correspondent

Huge price rises are on the way for electricity and gas consumers. Mr David Howell, the Secretary of State for Energy, told the House of Commons yesterday that over the next three years domestic gas prices would have to rise at an annual rate of 10 per cent more than the rate of inflation and electricity prices by 5 per cent more.

Even on the conservative estimates of inflation prepared by the London Business School this will mean that by 1983 gas prices will have increased by more than 80 per cent and electricity by nearly 60 per cent. On more pessimistic assumptions gas prices could well double over the period.

Over the next 12 months consumers will face two increases. Domestic gas prices will rise by 12 per cent on April 1 with a further 10 per cent to come in October and electricity prices will rise by around 17.5 per cent, varying slightly from region to region, with a further 5 per cent in October.

Most of the inflation element of the increase will thus be implemented at the start of the gas and electricity industries' financial year.

Government has imposed the need for the rises on a willing British Gas Corporation and Electricity Council by fixing financial targets for both groups requiring them to make substantial profits.

The return on British Gas's assets is set at a target of 9 per cent in real terms, a sharp increase in the 6 per cent it achieved in 1978-79 when the corporation made a record inflation-adjusted profit of £360.7m.

The scale of profits by British Gas, which has started to make a net contribution to the Exchequer, has been widely

criticized for bearing the brunt of all price

attacked, particularly by consumer groups.

The electricity industry in England and Wales, which made a real loss of £166m in its last financial year, is required to make an average real return on net assets of 1.8 per cent—a much lower target than for gas and one which recognizes the industry's higher costs.

Mr Howell told MPs that the price consumers paid for fuels must reflect their value and take into account the fact that their supply was limited.

"We must conserve our scarce energy supplies for future generations," he said. "After a year in which crude oil supplies have risen by 100 per cent or more, this is bound to mean heavy increases in other fuel prices."

Dr David Owen, Opposition Energy spokesman, described the figures as "astronomical" while Mr Wedgwood Bonham, former Energy Secretary, said the resulting rise in industrial costs would lead to further difficulties in exporting and maintaining employment.

"In the long run what Britain needs is a powerful manufacturing industry on which it can rely when oil runs out," Mr Benn said.

Mr Howell's statement is welcomed by both the gas corporation and the electricity authorities. The electricity authorities have long argued that domestic gas was priced too low in comparison with its alternatives and the gas corporation faces increasingly higher costs in obtaining supplies from the fields of the northern North Sea.

Domestic gas prices rose by 10 per cent in April, 1977, and then by 8 per cent in June, 1979, but in real terms declined by more than 15 per cent in that period. The domestic market will only break even this year while industrial consumers have been forced to bear the brunt of all price increases. The energy sector has to reflect the economic use of the resources consumed. They would need to rise by 5 per cent above the industry's own costs. The biggest element of costs is fuel and the National Coal Board, the industry's biggest supplier, has agreed to keep its prices within the rate of inflation.

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## Rumours of Italian devaluation refuted

Signor Gaetano Stammati, Italian Minister of Foreign Trade, said in Rome that Italy's trading partners "would regard us as mad if we tried to implement devaluation like this." He is interviewed with an interview in the newspaper *La Repubblica*, in the debate which has gathered strength since the publication on Saturday of a £158,000 lire (about £810m) trade deficit for November.

He admitted that industrialists were pressing for devaluation, to compensate for loss of competitiveness abroad. Last year Italian export prices rose by about 13 per cent against an average 13 per cent in other countries. But, the minister believed, Italian firms were exporting not at a loss, only with reduced margins.

### Ford first in France

Ford-France SA sold 90,650 vehicles in France last year, thus maintaining the first place among foreign importers, the company announced in Paris. The total, however, was below the 93,400 units sold in 1978, due to the six week strike in the group's British plants at the end of 1978.

### Italy freezes credits

Italy will freeze its trade credits to the Soviet Union at present levels, effectively limiting Italian exports to that country, in response to the Western protest against the invasion of Afghanistan, a foreign ministry spokesman says.

### Tokyo export record

Japan's certified exports in 1979 rose by 7.8 per cent to a record \$107,230m (about £47,658m) from \$99,450m a year earlier, according to the International Trade and Industry Ministry.

### German petrol up

Deutsche Shell AG announced in Hamburg it will increase retail petrol prices in West Germany for super and regular grades by between six and seven pence a litre and for diesel by five pence from today. The present prices are super grade, 106 pence (about 27p) a litre, regular 102 pence, and diesel 106 pence.

### \$70m components plant

Ford Motor Co has announced in Detroit it will build a \$70m (about £31m) plastic plant in West Berlin to manufacture components important in producing lighter, fuel-saving vehicles. It will employ 700 workers when it opens in 1981.

### French jobless rise

The number of job-seekers in France rose by 1.8 per cent (seasonally adjusted) to 1,370,000 from 1,345,000 in November, the labour ministry reports. The December total was 12.4 per cent above that of December, 1978.

### £3m furnace order

Born International, of Brighton, has won a £3.3m order to supply furnaces for petrochemical plants being built by West German contractors at Neuss and Saarbrück. The projects have been commissioned by the China National Technical Import Corporation.

## Redfearn National Glass

### A significant increase in volume of containers sold

The following is an extract from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. John Pratt.

We achieved a significant increase in the volume of containers sold, leading to an improved market share. Sales of our wide-mouth bottles to the soft drinks industry more than doubled and a useful increase has been recorded in sales to the wine and spirits industry. However, these achievements were offset by reduced profit margins caused by continued price competition. There are signs that continental producers may be adopting a more realistic pricing policy. This tendency, if maintained, would of course benefit UK producers.

The aim of our cost reduction programme is to put the company in a much better competitive position vis-a-vis our continental competitors where rates of labour productivity are usually much higher. Redundancy payments as a result will bear heavily on the company in the short-term but the future benefit should be substantial.

It is, therefore, likely that the company will be in a break-even situation during the first half of the current year but I forecast a substantial improvement in the second half. Results for the full year 1979/80 are therefore likely to be comparable with those of 1978/79.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary.

REDFEARN NATIONAL GLASS LTD., FISHERGATE, YORK, YO1 4AD.

Iranians threaten to cut oil supplies if Tokyo follows American line

## Japan caught in sanctions dilemma

Political developments in Iran and Afghanistan have left Japan in the midst of diplomatic and economic trouble which may seriously affect its energy programmes and industries in the months to come.

Japan intends to import 265 million tons of oil for 1980, 5 million less than in 1979. But supplies are now less predictable and will largely depend on how Japan behaves over American proposals for economic sanctions against Iran and the Soviet Union.

It appears Japan will follow the American guidelines for punitive action in spite of this week's strong warning from Iran.

Mr Ali Akbar Moinfar, Iran's oil minister, told the Japanese ambassador in Tehran that oil exports could stop if Japan imposed sanctions. This warning was received in Tokyo with "surprise" since the Japanese had been "under the impression" that the newly arranged import plan for 1980—of 530,000 barrels a day at \$30 dollars per barrel, an increase of 10 per cent over 1979's 460,000 barrels—would go ahead whatever anti-sanctions measures Japan might impose.

Japan's final position on sanctions depends on consultations with Mr Philip Habib, the former United States under-Secretary of State, who arrived in Tokyo

and Shell which seem to have placed priority on their own countries.

Japan is vulnerable to whatever retaliatory measures Iran and the Soviet Union may take. However, the government has initiated a "Save Energy" campaign in an attempt to cut down energy consumption by 7 per cent (20 million tons) a year.

Japan needs Iranian oil and such Russian resources as oil, natural gas and coal more than they need Japanese money or technology.

It is against this background that Japan is demonstrating a measure of resistance against the United States demand for imposing sanctions. It is, however, doubtful if Tokyo can be as independent as West Germany and France may be.

Foreign ministry sources have already indicated that despite Iran's warning, Japan would "accommodate" the Americans. Tokyo has also already told Washington that, as a means of expressing "displeasure" with Moscow, the Japanese government would not enter into long-range agreements or expand economic relations.

Evidently, Japan fears retaliatory action from the United States for rejecting the demand for sanctions more than it fears retaliation from Iran and the Soviet Union.

Koji Nakamura

Industry sources are worried that Caltex will be followed by such as Exxon, Mobil

## More weight for EEC monetary committee

From Peter Norman  
Brussels, Jan 16

Britain, France and West Germany are to upgrade their representation on the EEC's Monetary Committee, each by appointing a top-level monetary official to vacant positions.

Although under the EEC treaty the committee has advisory status only, the revamp suggests that it is now destined to play a more important role in coordinating monetary policy among the Nine. The changes are due to be formally carried through at a meeting in Brussels next Wednesday.

Britain's new representative will be Sir Kenneth Couzens, Second Permanent Secretary at the Treasury who is responsible for overseas affairs.

The Germans will be appointing Herr Manfred Lahmstein, the state secretary in the finance ministry, who in effect controls the Bonn end of Germany's monetary policy.

France's representative will be M Jean Yves Haberer, the director of the treasury and therefore equivalent in rank to Herr Lahmstein. M Haberer, who is expected to take over the chairmanship of the committee from M Jacques van Ypersele of Belgium, has a reputation for toughness and is reported to be anything but an anglophile.

The decision to give more weight to the committee is thought to have been taken on the fringes of the EEC summit in Dublin last November.

As coordination of monetary policy in Europe becomes increasingly important, it was apparently felt that the monetary committee should have more people with decision-making powers so that it can take some of the burden off finance ministers.

M van Ypersele's departure as committee chairman (he is expected to stay as a member) will be regretted by many, but it is recognized that as chief adviser to the Belgian Prime Minister he has been fully stretched through the recent months of government crisis in Brussels.

M van Ypersele has been an enthusiastic supporter of pushing ahead with the further development of EMS. France and Germany on the other hand are known to have reservations.

There is considerable scepticism among high-level officials that the March 1981 deadline for the establishment of the European Monetary Fund can be kept, despite the commitment given by heads of government in Dublin.



Sir Keith Joseph (inset) told the conference the Government would not flinch from redirecting public expenditure to engineering.

## Broad backing for Finniston

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor

Support for a new engineering authority to improve the performance of manufacturing industry came yesterday from Sir Terence Beckett, chairman and managing director of Ford of Britain.

He was speaking at a conference on the Finniston report on the engineering profession and manufacturing industry, attended by almost 300 at the City University, London.

If the authority succeeded in its job, it could eventually be disbanded, because there was

value in having a number of special interests such as the universities, the professional institutions and industry, Sir Terence added.

He expected industry reaction to the report, which recommends a new authority to organize the registration of engineers and accredit their education, to be largely "yes" followed by "but".

Without a new authority to act as a continuing focus for effort, the Finniston initiative could be lost, Sir Terence warned.

Sir Terence stressed the value of a production planning group to identify market opportunities and products to exploit them.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, who will decide government policy on Finniston after consultation, reiterated that the Government would not flinch either from

## High Street jewellers at hub of new gold rush

Britain is experiencing a second gold rush, not around the offices of the bullion dealers but in High Street jewelry shops.

Imports of gold items for hallmarking in British assay offices soared by nearly 60 per cent in the last three months.

According to industry sources, the bulk of the increase was caused by the immense popularity of nine carat gold chain from Italy which undercuts the British equivalent but is banned from sale in its country of origin.

The level of imports has been so high that there has been talk of a call for a European Commission investigation to test whether the chain was being subsidized by the Italian Government.

Jewelry manufacturers now believe that Italians gain the

upper hand over their British counterparts in other ways.

British manufacturers are not too worried by increasing imports, however. Many of the goods require finishing work in this country before going on sale.

"By and large British manufacturers had a good year in 1979," said one industry analyst.

"Their main worry at the moment is that retail jewellers did well at Christmas but because of escalating gold prices did not convert their capital into stocks."

The London, Birmingham, Sheffield and Edinburgh assay offices hallmark a record total of 29,455,793 articles made from gold, silver and platinum last year, 2.4 million more than in 1978. Foreign wares accounted for 24.4 per cent of the total, compared with 14.4 per cent in 1978.

## De Lorean may build family car

By David Felton

De Lorean Motor Cars, which is to start producing 30,000 sports cars from a new plant in West Belfast next July, is having to boost production with the introduction of new models.

Executives are looking at the possibility of building a family car alongside the sports car which received £50m aid from the last Labour Government.

Mr Eugene Caffin, De Lorean president and chief executive, said in Belfast last night that the company could not afford to rely on one model.

Construction started on the Belfast plant six months ago and is expected to be producing 30,000 cars a year by the middle of 1981. The sports car will be sold initially in the United States.

## Trade threat from Taiwan 'a myth', report says

By David Hewson

The supposed trade threat to the West from newly industrialized countries such as Hong Kong and Taiwan is largely a myth, according to a report from the Economic Intelligence Unit published today.

In turn, the report accuses the West of underestimating its own dealings with these countries and points out that developed countries within the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development still earn substantial trade surpluses with them.

The short and medium-term problems for the West, it concludes, are to shift the focus of industry to the products in which it is relatively competitive.

The report says action should be taken to remedy the inequality in the impact of trade with newly industrialized countries. It produces deficits in American and Canadian manufacturing trade but surpluses for western Europe and Japan.

Nine newly industrialized countries are identified as responsible for the quarter of OECD imports. They are Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Spain, Mexico, Singapore, Yugoslavia, Brazil and Portugal.

Despite the dramatic growth of this trade it accounted for only 8.5 per cent of OECD imports by 1978 and had an important impact only in certain subsectors, the report says.

Effects on employment have been small, displacing only a small part of the United Kingdom labour force between 1970 and 1977.

Protectionist measures would fail to stem the rise of these

countries, leading them into diversification, and the propping up of inefficient home industries.

Consequently protection can often be seen in the long run to be counterproductive from the point of view of the importing country. And it should be regarded as only a short-term measure to soften the immediate impact of NICs (newly industrialized countries) competition.

The report says these countries will continue to move up-market, especially in response to import restrictions.

Even in the subsectors most heavily affected by competition from these countries, individual companies making speciality and particularly high quality or high fashion products should not only survive but actually prosper.

Small operations are likely to be more successful; larger concerns making non-speciality products at middle to upper market price ranges are likely to find the going tougher, the report adds.

It says the newly industrialized countries will continue to move into new industries and other developing countries will seek to emulate their export growth.

The most dramatic example of this could be China. The report says: "If China decides to develop large-scale export-oriented manufacturing industries, it would obviously be a very different type of animal to any existing NICs".

EIU Special Report No 73. The New Industrial Countries and their impact on Western Manufacturing, £50.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Self-denigration the worst disease of the British

From Mr H. S. Hill

Sir, There can be no question of the underlying wisdom within Sir Michael Edwards's "buy British" letter. We British undoubtedly have an ease of acceptance of foreign made goods which is a source of increasing delight to our Common Market partners and continuing frustration to United Kingdom manufacturers.

Sir Michael did not refer to one alarming aspect of genuine inter trade which certainly is used as a deterrent to imports by Japan, the United States, and more particularly our EEC partners—that is technical barriers to trade.

It is so easy to invent reasons which inevitably make it increasingly difficult for British goods to be exported whereas the United Kingdom seems to go out of its way to ease restrictions on imports.

The United States introduced retractable car bumper conditions very safe—but waited until they were some years ahead of development and then created immediate importation difficulties.

The United States and Japan introduced stringent pollution limitations for car exhausts—very laudable—but again an importation restriction which is still greatly limiting imports.

Closer to home we have the continuing saga of "agreed design conditions" for air receivers. Does it not border on the incredible that discussions have been going on in Brussels to arrive at a "standard" for 14 years? At a meeting in Brussels a few weeks ago we heard quite senior members of the commission optimistically declare that the

matter could be concluded within the next two to three years! In the meantime a "standard" could be determined and agreed by two or three companies within two days and leave time for a round of golf. Unfortunately the underlying difficulties are deliberate and in the meantime we cannot export these items to Europe whereas we do not prevent their importation.

I have been present at meetings where both German and French partners have emphasized against each other their unofficial recognition of technical barriers with continue until the "other party" relaxes—meanwhile we continue to exercise our inherent right to British fair play—we buy foreign.

Numerous other examples can be quoted and if examined in detail should no doubt invoke similar actions on our part at least until a more suitable political solution is found.

In the not too distant past my company lost a substantial order for capital equipment for one of Her Majesty's dockyards—but the order was awarded to an American company for goods manufactured in Italy. Our protests to the then minister of state produced the reply: "We must be seen to be giving the Common Market a chance to work!"

Perhaps rather more ironically having supplied British Leyland in all its previous guises for 50 years we lost substantial orders for equipment manufactured not ten miles from Longbridge—the orders being placed for manufacture in

Longbridge.

Minor advantages such as lower unemployment, higher productivity, better balance of trade payments, might even be picked up along the way.

Yours faithfully,  
H. S. HILL,  
47 Englefield Close,  
Bandswood Wood,  
Birmingham 20.



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Dealing profits fall at Stock Conversion

Net revenue at property group Stock Conversion and Investment Trust has fallen in the first six months as a result of the downturn in dealing profits.

Against £1.9m last time, dealing profits in the six months to September 30 amounted to only £83,000, leaving net pre-tax revenue £750,000 lower at £42m.

Although there will be no dealing profits in the second half, the directors are confident that the year-end revenue will reach last time's level of £8.6m.

The interim dividend has been raised by more than 50 per cent to 3.125p gross, but this is to reduce disparity between it and the final payout and is not an indication of the total dividend level, says the company.

The net asset value of the shares, on the previous valuation, amounts to 380p, against a share price 6p higher yesterday at 376p. It is thought that a current value of the group's properties would throw up a net asset value of around 450p a share.

## Magnet &amp; Southerns on course for £25m

Timber and home improvement group Magnet & Southerns pushed up pre-tax profits at the half way stage by 39 per cent to £12.5m. Mr Sam Oxford, the company's chairman, is confident that progress will be maintained in the second half to March 31.

Turnover rose from £60m in the first six months of 1978 to £65.5m in the same period of last year. Mr Oxford says that trading was good in the third quarter and does not "quarrel" with estimates of £25m pre-tax profits for the whole year.

An interim dividend of 4.25p gross has been declared, up 70 per cent on the last interim after allowing for the scrip issue. But it is pointed out that the increase follows the abolition of dividend restraint, and the final is not likely to increase by the same proportion.

About half of the group's cash balances are about £14m, but that will be reduced by tax payments so nearer £9m by the close of the financial year. Most of these funds are in gilts, and Magnet has no new major investment plans.

The shares rose 16p on the day to 161p to yield an historic 5.2 per cent. The shares rose 16p on the day to 161p to yield an historic 5.2 per cent.

## Stock markets

## Rise across board as institutions join rally

Equities jumped back into the fray yesterday, adding impetus to further strong performances by gilts and gold shares.

After a cautious start dealers reported a sharp increase in turnover as the institutions, loaded with cash, took the plunge and sent the index plodding through the 450 barrier. But with jobbers still reluctant to soak up stock, the rises were witnessed.

The improvement in equities was also helped by a good set of figures from the various companies reporting. Among these Tate & Lyle surged 10p to 170p on profits well above market expectations, Letraset International improved 7p to 142p after a 21 per cent hoist in pre-tax profits at the interim stage and full year figures from Trusthouse Forte, the first of the big leisure group's reporting this week, were also well received putting the shares 16p to 155p. Grand Metropolitan, reporting a 21 per cent hoist in pre-tax profits advanced 50p to 146p. Reo Stakis were wanted after its share price rose 30 per cent in increase rising 8p to 53p but reduced profits and an unchanged dividend clipped Allied Colloids 12p to 125p. Thomas French lifted 10p to 98p following a satisfactory report.

Vosper's acquisition of 51 per cent of Hovermarine Transport sent the shares sliding 17p to 190p while the strong demand for holidays continued to help Horizon Travel by 15p to 225p.

In builders the improvement in interim profits at Magnet & Southerns provided for a 16p rise to 161p and further loan facilities helped Montague Mac 3p at 75p but further consideration of SGR's further

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Horizon Travel by 15p to 225p.

Comment was good for 80p

earlier pose, rising 8p to 205p.

Further reports that it is ready to

bid for Decca 15p lower at 325p.

Some lines of thought, however,

anticipate a possible counter bid at some stage possibly from

GEC 7p stronger at 356p yesterday.

Equity turnover on January

15 was £13.67m (£17.281 bar

gains). Active issues yesterday

according to the Exchange Tele-

Com, Shell, London, Royal

First National Finance Corp,

Imperial Continental Gas Corp,

BP, Tricentrol, Deltex, Allied

Colloids, Trusthouse

Forre, Selection, Tst, Booms

Charter Cons, BAT and

Bowater.

## Latest results

Company	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Date 2/4	Year's total
Int'l Fin (Abt) (F)	(—)	0.72 (0.50)	(—)	1.75 (1.6)	2/4	2.73 (1.49)
Allied Colloids (I)	16.7 (13.5)	1.5 (1.2)	(—)	0.64 (0.54)	25/3	(2.5)
Countryside Props (F)	12.0 (12.8)	1.3 (1.0)	9.0 (7.9)	2.0 (1.9)	2/4	3.3 (2.6)
Montague & Stuhr (I)	25.5 (21.0)	6.0 (5.0)	6.0 (5.2)	1.09 (0.98)	29/2	(—)
Klo Stakis (F)	58.6 (52.7)	3.56 (2.78)	7.0 (5.0)	3.0 (1.73)	31/3	1.3 (1.0)
Samuel Steerl (I)	1.3 (1.4)	0.18 (0.35)	(—)	(—)	10/4	1.75 (1.0)
Stock Cpl (I)	(—)	4.24 (4.9)	(—)	2.2 (1.34)	10/3	(—)
T. French & Sons (F)	15.4 (13.2)	1.6 (1.2)	23.2 (14.9)	4.5 (3.5)	8/4	8.0 (5.3)
Trusthouse Forte (F)	721.0 (614.0)	63.5 (55.9)	20.0 (18.9)	6.5 (5.59)	2/4	10.5 (10.5)
Gen Test (F)	1,040.0 (1,147.0)	22.4 (21.6)	24.9 (21.2)	4.0 (1.05)	13/3	10.2 (9.4)
West Board Mills (I)	1.8 (1.5)	1.21 (1.0)	10.3 (7.4)	5.16 (—)	1.7 (1.4)	7.3 (—)

Dividends in this table are shown on a gross basis. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown

pre-tax and earnings are net. a—including special dividend of 1.65p.

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pre-tax and earnings are net. a—including special dividend of 1.65p.

Properties for the third year running. In the 12 months to last September, pre-tax profits reached a record £1.3m, against £605,000. Earnings per share jumped to 20.7p (9.5p); turnover contracted from £12.87m to £12m. The total gross dividend is being raised to 50p—an increase of 25 per cent on last time.

Recommending a scrip issue and consolidation, which will raise the nominal value of each 5p share to 25p, the board is optimistic about the current

year of significantly lower results. But the second-half profits should show some improvement and be closer to those of the same period last year. Heath makes products in brass and other metals.

## Shareholders approve Belhaven deal

At Belhaven Brewery's extraordinary meeting held yesterday shareholders approved the conditional agreements made last December between Belhaven and the vendors of Aspasia Point Ltd. They also approved the subscription for shares in Belhaven by Mr Eric Morley and his associates, the increase in the share capital and the appointment of Sir Fred Pontin to the board.

## Walker extends Highland bid

The offer by Hiram Walker & Sons for Highland Distilleries has so far attracted acceptances on 76,700 shares. This raises the stake of Hiram Walker to just 5.1 per cent—including a subsidiary before the offer was made. The offer has now been extended until January 29.

## Best-ever £1.62m at Thomas French

On sales up 16 per cent to £15.4m for the year to September 29, pre-tax profits of Thomas French and Sons rose by a third to £1.62m—a record. Earnings per share jumped by 56 per cent to 23.2p, and the total dividend, gross, is being boosted from 4.17p to 6.42p. French makes curtain styling products, etc., and specialized electrical heating equipment.

## Higher interest boosting US banks

United States banks continue to report better earnings figures with most of them attributing the improvement to higher interest rates.

Chase Manhattan, the third largest United States bank, reported an increase in income before securities transactions from \$19.7m to \$31.2m, equivalent to a 62 per cent jump in earnings per share to \$9.75. Fourth quarter income rose 31 per cent to \$7.7m in the same period last year. But it was 6 per cent down on the third quarter of 1979 because of lower overseas net interest income as a result of narrower interest rate spreads and a higher level of operating expenses, only partially offset by an increase in other operating income.

Provisions for loan losses also dropped in the fourth quarter from \$42.8m to \$36m, leaving the balance for possible loan losses at \$420.8m equivalent to 1.04 per cent of the loan portfolio.

Also in New York, Marine Midland, whose takeover by Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank is still being held up by the United States banking authorities, reported an even sharper improvement with net income

MONTAGUE L. MEYER Board has negotiated a £1.5m medium-term multi-currency loan with a syndicate of international banks. The loan, known as the Bank Loan, is for seven years and carries an option to convert into dollars or certain leading European currencies.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER City of Westminster Assurance continues to expand its business, (F75m). New single premium income during the year amounted to £430,000 and new annual premium income to £1.3m.

TRICENTROL Recommended cash offers by Tricentrol for Cableform Group have been accepted by 95 per cent of shareholders. The offers of over 80 per cent of capital and over 75 per cent of preference. Offers unconditional and remain open.

REDFEARN GROUP Results for the full year 1979-80 are not yet available but are comparable with 1978-79, the chairman of Redearn National Glass, Mr John Pratt, reports in his annual statement. Looking further ahead and with no detail of circumstances, the board looks to a resumption of profit growth.

SERCK's dividend should be at least maintainable in 1980, the chairman, Mr R. G. Martin, reports in his annual statement.

BOULTON AND PAUL Pre-tax profits of Boulton and Paul (subsidiary of BET) rose to £2.5m in the half-year to September 30. Turnover: £40.3m (£37.44m).

RELIANCE MUTUAL An increase of 12 per cent in new life business written during 1979 is reported by the Reliance Mutual. New ordinary branch life sums assured reached £166m (£160m in 1978).

HEDYWOOD WILLIAMS Heywood Williams Group has recently generated £1.5m cash from the disposal of development properties and the sale of the quarry and associated building business of its subsidiary, Pitchamatic Ltd. Pitchamatic is involved in contracting, decking, cladding and the sale of specialized products continues within Heywood Williams. The board view of the property sold was £800,000.

Dr Peter W. Russell, Egypt director of research and technology for Spillers, has been elected chairman of the scientific advisory committee of the Food Manufacturers Federation.

## Broking merger

By Alison Mitchell The top two partners of the new stockbroking group being proposed by Kemp-Gee and J and A Scrimgeour will both come from Kemp-Gee.

If the merger goes ahead Mr Richard Fulford senior partner at Kemp-Gee will become the top man of the enlarged partnership while his current deputy Mr Ian Dipple will become the new number two.

Although both firms are roughly the same size each currently has 22 partners and a staff of around 160. Kemp-Gee, which made the initial approach, appears to be the dominant negotiator.

Because it is a partnership Kemp-Gee does not disclose its annual figures but Mr Fulford admitted that last year the firm paid a 60 per cent bonus to its staff. Although this compares with 80 per cent the year

## Guinness growth rate slows

Higher interest rates and increasing costs will prevent brewing group Arthur Guinness from continuing to expand at the level of last year.

Chairman Lord Ivenshaw tells shareholders in the annual report that although profits will increase in the current period it is unlikely to be at last time's 16 per cent level.

However, in order to strength the group, Guinness will be expanding into non-brewing activities—and particularly into the materials handling field. In this area the limits to expansion will be governed by the rate at which ideas can be generated and the need to ensure the best possible service to customers, rather than by the constraints of total market size, Lord Ivenshaw adds.

Guinness is also hoping to expand its leisure division and has bought the Li-Lo brand name.

The only laggards were the

## Reo Stakis up 37 pc

By Peter Wainwright Scottish hotels-to-gaming group, Reo Stakis Organization finished 30 last in style after hoisting pre-tax profits by 37 per cent in the first six months.

In the full year, turnover rose by 11 per cent to £58.63m, while pre-tax profits went ahead 28 per cent to £3.56m.

In both turnover and profit terms hotel and inns have firmly put casinos into second place.

Hotels and inns' business went up from £21.87m to £26.17m, pulling up trading profits from £1.56m to £2.2m. The casino, nine of them in the year under review, with a tenth in Hull just added, were good for an increase in turnover from £4.69m to £5.06m and trading profits rose from £822,000 to £1.36m.

The only laggards were the

## Oil prices slow Allied Colloids

The increase in the cost of oil and the strength of sterling has almost halved interim profits at Allied Colloids.

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Mine results follow trend in gold prices

By Michael Prest

Results for the December quarter from General Mining and Union Corporation confirm the trend towards higher gold prices received and bigger profits.

Among the General Mining group mines, Buffelsfontein and Stilfontein saw their after-tax profits rise by 60 per cent and 75 per cent respectively. The Union Corporation miners' profits generally went up less, except Grootvlei which rose 60 per cent.

West Rand Consolidated, in the Gen Min group, turned a loss of R486,000 (£26,000) into an R2.85m profit. Unisel, a new mine in the Unicorp group, made a profit of R6.8m in its first three months of operation.

One grade for mines in both groups were much the same as in the previous quarter. The biggest change was at Bracken one of the Unicorp mines, where a decline in yields from 5.4 grammes per ton to 4.6 contributed to a 10 per cent fall in profits to R2.21m.

The average tax rate in all the mines was about 60 per cent. But at St Helena the tax charge remained the same as in the previous quarter, leading to record profits of R13.6m.

At Gen Min, the average gold price received for the three months was R41.6, up 36.4 per cent over the previous three months. Unicorp's average went up by 31.5 per cent to R41.5, including Unisel reporting for the first time.

## Wall Street

New York, Jan 16.—The stock market suffered a bout of profit-taking late in the day and prices ended narrowly lower in very heavy turnover.

Analysts said stocks were due for a correction after recent strength and that late weakness in the dollar, silver and gold stocks provided an excuse for some selling.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 3.41 but advances edged declines as volume rose to 700,000 shares from 532,321 turnover yesterday, the second heaviest turnover ever.

The heaviest trading to date occurred on October 10, 1979.

## Gold peaks at \$745.00

New York, Jan 16.—The gold market, which has been metals' best friend, was \$745.00 an ounce, up \$1.50 from the previous day's record-taking in mid-November. Prices ended

NY. COMEX: Jan, \$745.00-\$73.00; Feb, \$745.00-\$73.00; Mar, \$745.00-\$73.00; Apr, \$745.00-\$73.00; May, \$745.00-\$73.00; June, \$745.00-\$73.00; July, \$745.00-\$73.00; Aug, \$745.00-\$73.00; Sept, \$745.00-\$73.00; Oct, \$745.00-\$73.00; Nov, \$745.00-\$73.00; Dec, \$745.00-\$73.00; Jan, \$745.00-\$73.00; Feb, \$745.00-\$73.00; Mar, \$745.00-\$73.00; Apr, \$745.00-\$73.00; May, \$745.00-\$73.00; June, \$745.00-\$73.00; July, \$745.00-\$73.00; Aug, \$745.00-\$73.00; Sept, \$745.00-\$73.00; Oct, \$745.00-\$73.00; Nov, \$745.00-\$73.00; Dec, \$745.00-\$73.00; Jan, \$745.00-\$73.00; Feb, \$745.00-\$73.00; Mar, \$745.00-\$73.00; Apr, \$745.00-\$73.00; May, \$745.00-\$73.00; June, \$745.00-\$73.00; July, \$745.00-\$73.00; Aug, \$745.00-\$73.00; Sept, \$745.00-\$73.00; Oct, \$745.00-\$73.00; Nov, \$745.00-\$73.00; Dec, \$745.00-\$73.00; Jan, \$745.00-\$73.00; Feb, \$745.00-\$73.00; Mar, \$745.00-\$73.00; Apr, \$745.00-\$73.00; May, \$745.00-\$73.00; June, \$745.00-\$73.00; July, \$745.00-\$73.00; 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11. *What is the primary purpose of the following statement?*

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 14. Dealings End, Jan 25. § Contango Day, Jan 28. Settlement Day, Feb 4  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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## Appointments Vacant

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## LOCUM TENENS APPOINTMENTS

General Practitioners  
Saudi Arabia; US \$160 per day, TAX FREE

The Whittaker Corporation of the U.S.A. is responsible for the staffing and management of three general hospitals in Saudi Arabia, where the task is to provide a high standard of Health Care in this rapidly developing country.

We now have single status Locum Tenens appointments available in the above specialty to work a 4 week period or longer (on a 5th day week basis), with round trip air

Dedicated to a world of health  
**Whittaker**  
Life Sciences Ltd

fares and accommodation provided.  
Applicants must possess a primary medical degree from a U.K. University, M.R.C.G.P. preferred, or at least five years in General Practice.  
Please write for further details and an application form to Medical Staffing Officer, Whittaker Life Sciences Ltd., 199 Knightsbridge, London SW7.

Medical Staffing Officer, Whittaker Life Sciences Ltd., 199 Knightsbridge, London SW7.

## Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

## NON-SECRETARIAL

## Publishing

Academic Press's Promotions Department needs a competent and experienced person to handle the despatch of review copies. Typing is essential, but more important will be the ability to analyse and evaluate books and help to restructure the existing system. If you want to join a Company whose benefits include non-residential accommodation, life insurance and sickness cover, L.V.'s and flexible working hours please telephone or write:

Deborah Sanderson,  
Academic Press Inc (London) Ltd.,  
24-28 Oval Road,  
London NW1 7DX.  
Tel: 01-267 4166 ext. 112.

## FUND RAISING ORGANISER

C. £5,000 p.a. WITH GOOD FINANCIAL BENEFITS  
(AGE MIDDLE 20s)

for eminent national children's charity I.W.C. Duties and responsibilities include: managing the generation of new funds and the maintenance of existing funds, and liaison with the charity's fund raising events. Applications are required from individuals, articulate and thoroughly professional, and demonstrating administrative experience. Adaptability, communication skills and personality are essential qualities. A current driving licence is essential, and typing ability counts.

Salary around £4,000 negotiable according to experience and ability. Please apply in writing with full details of your qualifications and a copy of your curriculum vitae to:

Peter Roberts,  
Prince of Wales Theatre,  
Coventry Street,  
London, W1.

Playhouse, Coventry Street, London, W1. Tel: 01-533 6541.

CASHIER/BOOKKEEPER for leading City Accountant and Exporter. Good prospects. Age 25-30. Coventry Street, London, W1. Tel: 01-533 7697.

## SECRETARIAL

## SECRETARY/P.A.

The Financial Director of a Film Art Publishing Co. requires a person for interview and selection. Duties will be: Application for figures and good typing, personal, Good Salary, etc. Apply Mr Abbott, The Medici Society, 34-36 Portman Road, London, N1. Tel: 01-7099.

P.A. to Managing Director of Dynamics Firm of International Advisors. Good shorthand, good telephone and computer experience in similar position required. Good salary, plus bonus. Call 01-493 3633.

\*\* LEVEL PA/SEC. for Fashion Fabrics Group working with the Administrative Assistant, Carter & Sons, 194-196 Fleet Street, EC4. Tel: 01-562 2792.

SECRETARY Junior Manager, office Wright, 01-733 2763.

SECRETARY/ARCHITECTS. AMBA Agency, 01-733 0532.

SECRETARY/PA. for selection committee, advertising and publishing. Age 25-30, needed by 19th Feb. Tel: 01-533 4229.

SECRETARY/P.A. wanted for clerical work in office, to assist secretary. Some typing, good personal, friendly, good general conditions. Phone for interview 01-723 5810.

GENERAL VACANCIES

£6,000 plus  
Appointments

EASTERN ARTS ASSOCIATION CAMBRIDGE

Qualified Accountant

DEPUTY DIRECTOR to be responsible for the financial and general administration of the Association.

Salary: £6,936-£10,254

Further details from:

The Director, Eastern Arts Association, 6/8 Broad Street, Cambridge CB2 1UA.

Tel: Cambridge (0223) 67707.

Please quote reference F1.

Closing date: 20th February, 1980.

GENERAL VACANCIES

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

£17,500+

A private financial group with expanding interests abroad and in the U.K. seeks a further addition to the young management team. The post is London based and requires considerable commercial acumen in participating in the running of the business while taking responsibility for the short term financials. An excellent salary and terms and salary will be negotiated.

Box 9186 F. The Times.

WEST END GALLERY, S.W.1

Art dealers specializing in Victorian and Edwardian furniture, 20-30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 260, 270, 280, 290, 300, 310, 320, 330, 340, 350, 360, 370, 380, 390, 400, 410, 420, 430, 440, 450, 460, 470, 480, 490, 500, 510, 520, 530, 540, 550, 560, 570, 580, 590, 600, 610, 620, 630, 640, 650, 660, 670, 680, 690, 700, 710, 720, 730, 740, 750, 760, 770, 780, 790, 800, 810, 820, 830, 840, 850, 860, 870, 880, 890, 900, 910, 920, 930, 940, 950, 960, 970, 980, 990, 1000, 1010, 1020, 1030, 1040, 1050, 1060, 1070, 1080, 1090, 1100, 1110, 1120, 1130, 1140, 1150, 1160, 1170, 1180, 1190, 1200, 1210, 1220, 1230, 1240, 1250, 1260, 1270, 1280, 1290, 1300, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1340, 1350, 1360, 1370, 1380, 1390, 1400, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1440, 1450, 1460, 1470, 1480, 1490, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1560, 1570, 1580, 1590, 1600, 1610, 1620, 1630, 1640, 1650, 1660, 1670, 1680, 1690, 1700, 1710, 1720, 1730, 1740, 1750, 1760, 1770, 1780, 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020, 2030, 2040, 2050, 2060, 2070, 2080, 2090, 2100, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2140, 2150, 2160, 2170, 2180, 2190, 2200, 2210, 2220, 2230, 2240, 2250, 2260, 2270, 2280, 2290, 2300, 2310, 2320, 2330, 2340, 2350, 2360, 2370, 2380, 2390, 2400, 2410, 2420, 2430, 2440, 2450, 2460, 2470, 2480, 2490, 2500, 2510, 2520, 2530, 2540, 2550, 2560, 2570, 2580, 2590, 2600, 2610, 2620, 2630, 2640, 2650, 2660, 2670, 2680, 2690, 2700, 2710, 2720, 2730, 2740, 2750, 2760, 2770, 2780, 2790, 2800, 2810, 2820, 2830, 2840, 2850, 2860, 2870, 2880, 2890, 2900, 2910, 2920, 2930, 2940, 2950, 2960, 2970, 2980, 2990, 3000, 3010, 3020, 3030, 3040, 3050, 3060, 3070, 3080, 3090, 3100, 3110, 3120, 3130, 3140, 3150, 3160, 3170, 3180, 3190, 3200, 3210, 3220, 3230, 3240, 3250, 3260, 3270, 3280, 3290, 3300, 3310, 3320, 3330, 3340, 3350, 3360, 3370, 3380, 3390, 3400, 3410, 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8400, 8410, 8420, 8430, 8440, 8450, 8460, 8470, 8480, 8490,

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## -Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

### Graduate Girls Secretarial

#### WEST END

**SENIOR P.A. £5,000 + PERKS**  
The senior partner of a management service company, making a wide range of knowledge of audio or rusty shorthand will do. Excellent working conditions. Fringe benefits. Ideal for intelligent person wanting to use initiative. Call Margaret on 01-629 7262.

**FIRST IMPRESSIONS £4,000+**  
Do you present the right image to complement the fast and luxurious reception area of this property? Then you will be a valuable asset and efficiency will be vital to deal with a wide variety of clients. Knowledge of a P.M.E.C. 4 S.E.C. would be useful. For more information phone Let Bostock on 01-629 7262.

**HELPING HANDS £5,000+**  
Your commercial and administration abilities could help families emigrating to Australia, working for the immigration department of the Home Office. As he is involved in numerous trips you will be required to manage the office and junior staff in his absence. The more you know the better your chances are if you are successful in this challenging position. Interested? Phone Let Bostock on 01-629 7262.

**QUEEN BEE £7,000+**  
The second most important man in this large international group needs a very flexible and loyal personal assistant. You will be doing 70% of the time and you will be controlling all of his affairs from the 17th century headquarters. Use your initiative and experience to succeed in this position. For further details call Maggie Maxwell on 01-629 7262.

**WEIGHT IN GOLD £6,000 + EXCELLENT BENEFITS**  
Have you ever considered working for this well-established international company who are looking for high calibre people to uphold their reputation and enjoy the rewards of a professional career? Act quickly and call Carol Lee, 629 7262.

**STEP INTO PERSONNEL £4,500 SEC./P.A. + BENEFITS**  
Career minded? Assist the Personnel Officer staff and with his/her personal knowledge and management structure. Organise temporary staff and give an overall admin. back-up within this Victoria-based Co. with recruitment of staff. This is a great opportunity for a 2nd job, wanting to get into personal training with training.



### Secretaries

#### High Holborn

Due to the expansion of our European Regional Office at High Holborn we have a number of vacancies for first rate secretaries.

We are interested in hearing from you if you are educated to at least 'O' level standard, have competent shorthand and typing and previous secretarial experience.

The increasing work load will mean opportunities in a number of different departments and the following positions are vacant at the moment:

#### New Business Programme

The international management of a new department offers you interesting and responsible work calling for a good sense of priorities and an ability to work under pressure when necessary. (Ref. SJS341)

#### Financial Division

Use your sound administrative abilities to provide a full service to our Currency Exposure Manager and a small team of Financial Analysts. (Ref. SJS340)

#### Colour Print and Processing

The Director and three Co-ordinators require a Secretary who enjoys varied and interesting work, including providing data summaries. The ability to speak French is desirable. (Ref. SJS374)

A salary of £5,130 including productivity bonus will be offered, plus the usual benefits such as subsidised lunches, recreational facilities, staff discount and 4 weeks' holidays.

If any of these vacancies appeal to you then please get in touch by telephoning or writing, quoting the appropriate reference number, to:-

Mrs. S. J. Stow, Personnel Department, Kodak Limited, PO Box 66, Station Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. Tel. Hemel Hempstead (0442) 61122 ext. 20.

**CASTLES IN THE AIR £5,000**  
Does the prospect of helping to alter the London skyline excite you? If so, and you don't mind donning wellies for site visits, then this is the job for you. Organise temporary staff and give an overall admin. back-up within this Victoria-based Co. with recruitment of staff. This is a great opportunity for a 2nd job, wanting to get into personal training with training.

**SWEET TOOTH £5,500 PLUS EXCELLENT BENEFITS**  
Would you like to earn £5,500 plus your shorthand? Have you the patience to deal with foreign ministers and have you the patience to telephone the developing countries? If so, then this is the job for you. Organise temporary staff and give an overall admin. back-up within this Victoria-based Co. with recruitment of staff. This is a great opportunity for a 2nd job, wanting to get into personal training with training.

**WHEELER DEALER £5,000 + £1,000 BONUS**  
Have you ever dreamed of spending £1,000,000? This City girl won't pay you that much, but enough in cash to make you want to work hard to afford some of the luxuries you've always wanted. Please ring Christine Bee on 01-621 0566.

**STEP BY STEP £5,500**  
Step 1-Secretary/PA. Step 2-Sales Executive. Step 4-Buyers Manager. If you start with the right plan, you're in mind, please ring Christine Bee on 01-621 0566.

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## PERSONAL CHOICE

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

9.00 am For Schools, Colleges. 9.00 Twentieth Century History (Why Appenreance?); 9.25 Physical Science; 9.47 Matinew; 10.10 Merry-go-Round; 10.30 Scene: Salute; 11.30 Let's Look at Wales; 11.55 On the Rocks. Closedown at 12.20 pm.

12.45 News and weather. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Includes Tony Bilbow's movie spot. 1.45 Heads and Tails: puppet show. 2.00 You and Me: For very young children. 2.15 For Schools, Colleges. 2.25 Music Time: 2.40 Television club: A School in Time: Schoolidit (r). 3.55 Play School: Michael Shemesh's take Pieapple Story. 4.20 Sunday Dawg: cartoon. Star Cure (r). 4.25 Jackanory: Michael Troughton reads from Joan Tate's thriller See How They Run. 4.40 Screen Test: First semi-final of this year's movie quiz. Also Young Filmmakers' Competition receives its trophy. 5.00 John Craven's Newsround: For young viewers with lively minds. 5.10 Blithe Peter: A hairdressing school. 5.45 News with Peter Woods. 5.55 Nationwide.

6.55 Tomorrow's World: The line-up includes items on the dangerously receding Columbia glacier

Kate Nelligan and Bill Nighy in David Hare's play *Dreams of Leaving* (BBC 1, 9.25)

## BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: Same as BBC 1, 3.55. Closedown at 11.25. 4.50 pm Open University: S101 Preparatory Maths (graphs); 5.05 First Years of Life—All Yours. 5.25 Flash Gordon Conquers the Universe: Penultimate episode of this ancient cinema serial, with Buster Crabbe as the hero. Episode 11: Star Treachery. 5.55 Film: Oh, Mr Porter! (1938): A comedy gem—the story of a schoolboy (played by Peter Cushing) and the harried train (W.H. Hay, Graham Moffat, Moore Marriott) who run the ancient train (see Personal Choice). 7.15 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

## THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Making a Living (television); 9.52 Believe it or not (hinduism); 10.49 Look Around (air and space). 11.00 Pre-schoolers' Workshop; 11.22 Seeing and Doing: 11.44 Picture Box (a ghost story). 12.00 Topper's Tales: Julian Orchard reads the ghost Hunt. 12.30 The Sullivans: Serial set in the last war. 1.00 News: with Peter Sissons. 1.20 Thames News: with Robin Housman. 1.30 Crown Court: Second day of the hearing of the case in which two men are accused of murdering a detective (r). 2.00 After Noon Pops: A plain man's guide to form-filling; an interview with actor Warren Mitchell the origin of pub signs.

2.45 General Hospital: Medical world serial. The reappearance of Sister Holland's son (r).

3.45 Look Familiar: Nostalgia Number 1: McE. His guests and Irene Handl. 4.00 Wish There Were More Eddie Bracken.

4.15 Film: The Young Pioneers (made for television, 1976). A newly-married couple (Roger Daltrey and Penny Irving) travel to the Soviet Union. Set in 1970. 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.

6.25 Help! When young children can pose problems for parents. With Jo Stanion.

6.35 Crossroads: motel serial.

7.00 Wish There Were More Eddie Bracken (Chris Kelly).

7.15 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.30 Bernie: The Bernie Winters comedy show. His guest is actress Joan Collins.

7.45 News. 8.00 Rosalie Crutchley reads some poems.

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inthians 10: 13.

BIRTHS

ADAMS.—On 15th January, to  
John and Linda, a daughter, Elizabeth  
Jane.BROWN.—On January 16th, at  
Pembury Hospital, Kent, to  
Linda and Robert

John (Thomas). — 14 in

the morning. A son, Steven

and Andrew, — son

CLARK.—On 17th January, 1980,  
at Queen's Mary's, Roshambon,  
Johnathan — a daughter, QuenaCharlotte, — to Cheryl (see  
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